


*With the Compliments of the County Medical
Officer of Health.*

The Chestnuts

6, WHITEHALL, STROUD,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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Gloucestershire County Council.

3RD JULY, 1905.

SUMMARY OF THE
ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

The Medical Officers of Health

IN THE

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER

FOR 1904.

BY

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OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

SHIRE HALL, GLOUCESTER.

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GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

6, WHITEHALL, STROUD, Glos.,
13th June, 1905.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Sanitary Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to present my Summary of the Annual Reports for 1904. It will be observed that of the 38 Reports 2 are not yet to hand, 17 were received in June and the second half of May, and only 13 reached the Clerk to the County Council within the three months' limit. The very late receipt of so many Reports greatly increases the labour of summarising, and—still more important—makes it impossible to group the subject matter satisfactorily, so as to give you a clear and comprehensive view of the conditions obtaining during the year in time for the Meeting of the County Council in July. This has been a matter for comment every year—by the Chairman of the Committee, by Mr. Fosbroke, and by myself.

The numbers of Reports received by April 1st were : 1900, 15 ; 1901, 18 ; 1902, 19 ; 1903, 16 ; and 1904, 13.

WATER SUPPLY.—One of the most important subjects for your special consideration is the question of the water supply of the Forest of Dean, concerning which full reference is made in the section in the Summary on Water Supply. Since these remarks were written I have seen in an account of a meeting of the East Dean Rural District Council on the 7th instant, that Mr. Baylis, deputy surveyor of the Forest of Dean, informed a committee that it was Mr. Stafford Howard's intention to call a Conference to consider a water scheme for the whole district. I would suggest that inasmuch as the carrying out of your Order for the formation of a Joint Hospital District for Coleford and West Dean is dependent on a solution of this question, you should be represented at this Conference.—See page 28.

The question of the water supply of Bourton-on-the-Water (Stow-on-the-Wold Rural District) also calls for your attention. Mangersbury,* also in this District, has also been frequently reported as being in urgent need of water.

Other places which have been repeatedly reported as requiring a supply of water are—

Campden	Rural District ...	Bourton-on-the-Hill.
Cheltenham	„ „ ...	Prestbury, Shurdington, Bentham.
Marston Sicca	„ „ ...	Long Marston.
Newent	„ „ ...	Bran Green.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.—I would also direct your attention to the section of the Summary dealing with this subject.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MIDDLETON MARTIN,

County Medical Officer of Health.

* Since the above was written I have been informed by Dr. Moore (the Medical Officer of Health) that “Mr. Hewitt, of Mangersbury, has laid on a good supply to that village” (19th June, 1905.)

ARRANGEMENT OF DISTRICTS.

During 1904 considerable changes were made in three of the districts in the south of the county owing to the Bristol Corporation Act, 1904. Under this Act the whole of the Urban District of Horfield, and the whole of two parishes and part of a third in the Barton Regis Rural were transferred to Bristol; three parishes were added to the Chipping Sodbury Rural District, and the greater part of another parish to the Thornbury Rural District. At the bottom of Table III. giving the statistics for area, number of inhabited houses and population at the time of the Census, 1901, will be found a table showing the effects of the Bristol Corporation Acts of 1901, 1902, and 1904, on the various districts and on the Administrative County.

These changes came into effect on the 1st October, but Dr. Bond (the Medical Officer of Health for the Districts affected by the alterations) says: "As the transference was not completed, for administrative purposes, until the month of November, and as I received no records giving any information as to its sanitary supervision previous to its coming under my own supervision I have not dealt with it in the present report."

The number of annual Reports has been the same as in previous years, 38 for 37 districts.

CHANGES IN STAFF.

There have also been several changes in the Sanitary Staff in the County. The Medical Officer of Health for the Barton Regis Rural District (Dr. Edward Crossman) died on September 1st, and his son (Dr. F. W. Crossman) acted temporarily till the dissolution of the District a month later. In December, on the resignation of Dr. G. T. B. Watters

(Medical Officer of Health for the Haresfield Division of the Wheatenhurst Rural District) the Local Government urged the District Council to appoint one Medical Officer of Health for the whole of the District. This has been done, and in future there will be one report dealing with the District as a whole.

Five Sanitary Inspectors were appointed during the year.

DATE OF RECEIPT OF REPORTS.

Table I. gives the dates on which the various Reports were received. It will be noticed that only 13 of the 38 reports were sent “within, at most, three months of the end of the “year” as directed by the Local Government Board. The late dates at which many of the reports have come to hand has rendered the work of summarizing a difficult matter, and has entailed much unnecessary labour and trouble, as—in order to give a comprehensive view of the work in the County as a whole—it is important that all the material should be available at once.

TABLE I.

Date of Receipt of Report.		District.	Report printed or not printed.
Feb.	25	... Nailsworth Urban ...	Printed
„	27	... Wheatenhurst Rural (Frampton Division) ...	Not printed
„	28	... Winchcombe Rural ...	„
March	1	... Wheatenhurst Rural (Haresfield Division) ...	„
„	2	... Northleach Rural ...	„
„	10	... Dursley Rural... ..	„
„	18	... Cheltenham Borough ...	Printed
„	20	... Stroud Rural ...	„
„	22	... Stroud Urban ...	„
„	23	... Newent Rural ...	Not printed
„	23	... Warmley Rural ...	Printed
„	25	... Marston Sicca Rural... ..	„
„	30	... Pebworth Rural ...	„
April	3	... Stow-on-the-Wold Rural ...	Not printed
„	4	... Stow-on-the-Wold Urban ...	„
„	7	... Kingswood Urban ...	Printed
„	10	... West Dean Rural ...	„
„	11	... Coleford Urban ...	„
„	13	... Campden Rural ...	„
May	14	... Barton Regis Rural ...	Not printed
„	17	... Cheltenham Rural ...	Printed
„	29	... Horfield Urban ...	Not printed
June	1	... Charlton Kings Urban ...	„
„	4	... Cirencester Urban ...	Printed
„	4	... Chipping Sodbury Rural ...	„
„	4	... Cirencester Rural ...	„
„	4	... Gloucester Rural ...	„
„	5	... East Dean Rural ...	„
„	5	... Lydney Rural ...	„
„	6	... Thornbury Rural ...	Not printed
„	7	... Faringdon Rural ...	„
„	8	... Awre Urban ...	Printed
„	8	... Newnham Urban ...	„
„	8	... Westbury-on-Severn ...	„
„	9	... Tetbury Urban ...	„
„	9	... Tetbury Rural ...	„
„	14	... Tewkesbury Rural* ...	Not printed
July	13	... Tewkesbury Borough* ...	Printed

* Tables received June 5th, 1905.

TABLE I. AND IV. (L.G.B.)

I regret that in many instances these Tables are still not filled up according to the instructions given on the forms supplied; this applies chiefly to the inclusion of deaths of residents which have occurred beyond the district, but in

TABLE II.

Population, Number of Inhabited Houses, Average Number per house, Variation 1891-1901.

(Calculated from the "Census of Gloucestershire," 1901.)

Revised for alteration of boundaries to Oct., 1902, from Summary Tables of Census, 1903, and for Bristol Corporation Act, 1904.

	1901. Revised 1904. Area in Statute Acres.	Population.		Increase or Decrease at Census, 1901.		Inhabited Houses.		Average number of persons per house.	
		1891.	1901. Revised 1904.	No.	Per Cent.	1891. *	1901. Revised 1904.	1891. *	1901. Revised 1904.
Urban Districts.. ..	36,990	96,178	100,404	+ 5,661	+ 5.9	19,936	21,570	4.82	4.65
Rural Districts	748,854	227,483	221,038	+ 1,796	+ .79	50,200	50,143	4.54	4.41
Administrative County..	785,844	323,661	321,442	+ 7,457	+ 2.3	70,136	71,713	4.62	4.48
Bristol and Gloucester ..	19,638	330,902	386,997	+ 46,419	+ 14.3	55,690	70,178	5.94	5.51
Total	805,482	654,563	708,439	+ 53,876	+ 8.2	125,826	141,891	5.20	4.99
England and Wales ..	37,327,479	29,002,525	32,527,843	+ 3,525,318	+ 12.2	5,451,497	6,260,852	5.32	5.195

* Census of Gloucestershire, 1901.

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TABLE III.—AREA OF DISTRICTS, HOUSES, POPULATION, AVERAGE NUMBER PER HOUSE.

CENSUS, 1901.

	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population.			Average number of persons per house.			
		1891. ^o	1901.	1891.	1901.	Increase or No.		Decrease. Per cent.		
Urban Districts—										
Avre ..	4,329	259	258	1,148	—	52	—	4·43	1901.	
Charlton Kings ..	3,399	682	874	2,995	3,806	+	811	+	27·1	4·36
Cheltenham ..	4,726	9,592	10,352	47,121	49,439	+	2,318	+	4·9	4·78
Gloucester ..	5,286	1,545	1,621	7,621	7,536	+	15	+	·2	4·65
Colford ..	2,067	561	579	2,450	2,541	+	91	+	3·7	4·39
Horfield ..	832	37	176	645	1,435	+	790	+	122·5	17·44
Kingswood ..	1,625	1,810	2,446	9,114	11,961	+	2,847	+	31·2	5·04
Nailsworth ..	1,697	712	744	2,993	3,028	+	35	+	1·2	4·20
Newnham ..	1,937	273	266	1,401	1,184	—	217	—	15·5	4·45
Stow-on-the-Wold ..	45	353	325	1,525	1,386	—	139	—	9·1	4·27
Stroud ..	1,169	2,042	2,003	9,818	9,153	—	665	—	6·8	4·57
Tetbury ..	114	465	454	2,173	1,959	—	184	—	8·5	4·38
Tewkesbury ..	2,532	1,169	1,226	5,269	5,419	+	150	+	2·8	4·42
Westbury-on-Severn ..	8,264	436	422	2,005	1,866	—	139	—	6·9	4·42
TOTAL URBAN DISTRICTS ..	37,822	19,936	21,746	96,178	101,839	+	5,661	+	5·9	4·68
Rural Districts—										
Barton Regis ..	19,074	2,503	3,031	12,454	15,067	+	2,613	+	21·0	4·97
Campden ..	23,726	1,371	1,319	6,060	5,441	—	619	—	10·2	4·13
Cheltenham ..	18,401	1,012	1,034	4,670	4,637	—	33	—	·7	4·49
Chipping Sodbury ..	63,284	3,835	3,943	16,795	17,621	+	826	+	4·9	4·47
Gloucester ..	80,991	2,979	2,931	12,877	12,084	—	793	—	6·2	4·12
Dursley ..	26,786	2,876	2,753	12,166	11,636	—	530	—	4·4	4·23
East Dean and United Parishes ..	28,626	4,283	4,305	20,401	20,011	—	390	—	1·9	4·65
Faringdon (part of) ..	9,870	2,854*	271	1,266	1,179	—	87	—	6·9	4·35
Gloucester ..	30,663	1,807	2,062	9,604	10,779	+	1,175	+	12·2	5·23
Lydney ..	24,634	1,693	1,867	8,153	8,649	+	496	+	6·1	4·63
Marston Sicca ..	8,633	384	384	1,635	1,485	—	150	—	9·2	3·87
Newent (part of) ..	35,541	2,021*	1,649	7,492	7,067	—	365	—	4·9	4·32*
Northeach ..	70,018	2,050	1,931	8,885	8,100	—	785	—	8·8	4·33
Peworth ..	17,395	687	693	3,091	2,944	—	147	—	4·8	4·25
Stow-on-the-Wold (part of) ..	42,203	1,709*	1,515	7,142	6,473	—	669	—	9·4	4·38*
Stroud ..	37,221	6,468	6,635	28,510	27,793	—	717	—	2·5	4·42
Tetbury (part of) ..	26,301	969*	855	3,983	3,800	—	183	—	4·6	4·53*
Tewkesbury (part of) ..	28,366	1,782*	1,199	5,139	4,986	—	153	—	3·0	4·28*
Thornbury ..	56,300	3,662	3,782	16,765	16,565	—	200	—	1·2	4·58
Warmley ..	10,097	2,723	3,367	13,118	15,945	+	2,827	+	21·55	4·82
West Dean ..	21,461	2,547	2,742	11,697	12,624	+	927	+	7·9	4·59
Wheatenurst ..	24,383	1,580	1,496	6,853	6,105	—	748	—	10·9	4·34
Winchcombe (part of) ..	55,529	2,118*	2,048	9,106	8,709	—	397	—	4·4	4·36*
TOTAL RURAL DISTRICT ..	753,640	50,200	51,812	227,802	229,700	+	1,898	+	·84	4·43
Administrative County										
Bristol and Gloucester ..	791,462	70,136	73,558	323,980	331,539	+	7,559	+	2·3	4·62
Whole County ..										
	14,020	55,600	63,333	330,583	376,900	+	46,317	+	14·0	5·94
	805,482	126,826	141,891	654,563	708,439	+	53,876	+	8·2	4·99
England and Wales ..	37,327,479	5,451,497	6,260,852	29,002,525	32,527,843	+	3,525,318	+	12·17	5·32

Preliminary Report, Census 1901.

* These figures are for the *whole* District (Preliminary Report, Census, 1901).

† (4·66 excluding barracks)

By the Bristol Corporation Acts, 1901, 1902 and 1904, the following alterations in the above have been made :—

Horfield Urban District ..	..	..	..	Transferred to Bristol	..	..	..
Total Urban Districts ..	36,990	19,699	21,570	95,533	+ 4,871	+ 5·1	4·65
Barton Regis Rural District ..	Divided	between Bristol, a	and Rural Districts of Thornbury and Chipping Sodbury.				
Chipping Sodbury Rural District..	69,736	..	4,888	..	..	..	4·52
Thornbury Rural District ..	64,136	..	4,199	..	18,487	..	4·40
Total Rural Districts ..	748,854	..	50,143	..	221,038	..	4·41
Administrative County ..	785,844	..	71,713	..	321,442	..	4·48
Bristol and Gloucester ..	19,638	..	70,178	..	386,997	..	5·51

some instances, also, deaths of non-residents in Public Institutions in the District have not been excluded from Table IV. These errors do not seriously affect the County Rates, but they make a great difference in the Rates for the respective Districts and consequently in the conclusions which can be drawn from these Rates. Information as to deaths in the County Asylums can be obtained from the Clerks to the Board of Guardians, to whom reports of deaths are made by the Clerk to the Asylums. With respect to deaths in other "Public Institutions" it would perhaps simplify matters if some arrangement could be made for a "clearing-house;" one proposal which has been suggested to me is that the County Medical Officer of Health in each County should receive lists of such deaths and forward the copy of each certificate to the District to which the death belongs. This would involve some trouble, but would undoubtedly tend to increase the accuracy and consequently the value of local statistics.

POPULATION.

The difficulty in obtaining an accurate estimate of the population in intercensal years was referred to in my last report; in some instances Medical Officers of Health have overcome this by assuming that the population remains constant at the Census figure. The County estimates have been obtained by the method of the Registrar General—assuming that the same rate of increase as in the previous intercensal period holds good, and are—

				Estimated Population Middle of 1904.	
Urban Districts	103,650
Rural	230,250
					<hr/>
Administrative County	333,900

Table III. gives various statistical details for the Districts in the County and also the alterations caused by the recent Bristol Corporation Acts.

BIRTH RATES.

TABLE VI.

	1904 † †	1903 † †	1902 † †	1901 † †	1900 † †	1899 *	1898 *	1897 *	1896 *	1895 *	1894 *	1893 *
Urban	21·5	23·5	21·6	22·9	22·7	23·2	27·0					
Rural	23·6	25·1	24·9	26·7	26·9	24·0	24·3					
Administrative County	22·9	24·6	23·9	25·5	25·5	23·6	25·6	25·2	23·5	26·9	25·9	26·3
England and Wales ...	27·9	28·4	28·6	28·5	28·7	29·3	29·4	29·7	29·7	30·3	29·6	30·8

* Taken from summary of Reports prepared by Chairman of Sanitary Committee.

† Including the Wiltshire Parishes of Ashley and Long Newnton.

‡ Excluding Wiltshire Parishes.

The birth-rates in the above Table have, as usual, been calculated on the total population, but as the Registrar-General points out in his 66th Annual Report (1903) owing “to the very considerable changes in the sex and age constitution of the population the comparison of birth-rates calculated by this method fails to give a true measure of the amount of decrease that has actually occurred.” For greater accuracy the birth-rate should be calculated on the proportion of births to the number of women living at child-bearing ages. I am, however, unable to make this calculation for the County at present.

It will be noticed that in every year except 1898 the birth-rate in the rural districts has been considerably higher than in the urban districts. Horfield Urban (33·9) and West Dean Rural (33·3) are again the districts with the highest birth-rates. Pebworth Rural has also an exceptionally high rate

L.G.B. TABLE IV.

[illegible]

this year (33·6). The districts with the lowest rates are Newnham Urban (16·1), Stow-on-the-Wold Urban (18·0), Cheltenham Rural (18·4), and Gloucester Rural (18·8).

DEATH RATES.

TABLE VII.

	1904 † †	1903 † †	1902 † †	1901 † †	1900 † †	1899 *	1898 *	1897 *	1896 *	1895 *	1894 *	1893 *
Urban	13·4	13·9	14·9	15·5	13·8	15·9	13·6					
Rural	13·1	12·9	14·2	13·8	15·5	14·1	12·9					
Administrative County	13·2	13·2	14·4	14·2	15·2	14·9	13·2	14·6	14·1	15·4	13·6	15·4
Ditto, corrected for Sex and Age Distribution	11·7	11·7	12·9	12·8	13·7	13·4	11·9	13·1	12·7	13·8	12·2	13·8
England and Wales ...	16·2	15·4	16·3	16·9	18·2	18·3	17·6	17·4	17·1	18·7	16·6	19·2

* Taken from summary of Reports prepared by Chairman of Sanitary Committee.
† Including the Wiltshire Parishes of Ashley and Long Newnton.
‡ Excluding Wiltshire Parishes.

The total of the numbers of deaths “registered in the “districts” is 4,506, while the total given as “nett deaths” is only 4,413. The difference is in great measure due to the number of deaths of non-residents occurring in public institutions which have been excluded in the calculation of the “nett death rate” for the respective districts, and which have not been allocated to the districts to which these non-residents belong. As the large public institutions serve practically only places within the County, the totals of nett deaths and registered deaths should be about the same. It would appear therefore that the amount of error in the County rates, to which I have referred in my previous Reports, is somewhere about 2·1 per cent.

It will be seen from the Table given above that while the

death-rate for the urban districts has slightly fallen to a minimum, the Rural rate has slightly risen, and the County rate is the same as in 1903, the same minimum rate which was recorded in 1898. The rate for England and Wales rose from 15·4 in 1903 to 16·2 in 1904. The highest rate is in Tewkesbury Borough (18·1), which had one of the highest rates also both in 1902 and 1903.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

TABLE VIII.

	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899 *	1898 *	1897 *	1896 *	1895 *
Urban	111	94	118	114	120	145	106			
Rural	90	86	101	95	95	108	92			
Administrative County	96	89	106	101	102	118	99	110	105	123
England and Wales ...	146	132	133	151	154	163	161	155	148	161

* Taken from summary of Reports prepared by Chairman of Sanitary Committee.

While the general death-rate for the County was the same in 1904 as in the previous year, the infantile mortality rose from 89 in 1903 to 96 in 1904. This rise occurred in both the urban and the rural districts, but more in the former than in the latter. The difference in the numbers of deaths under the age of one year in 1903 and 1904 was 13. This is also the difference in the number of deaths from whooping cough in the same years, and there was an increase of eight deaths from croup in 1904.

The districts with the highest rates were the urban districts of Awre (181), Charlton Kings (174), Tewkesbury (138), Cheltenham (133), and Warmley Rural (132). Dr. Garrett makes interesting observations on this subject, which are quoted in the summary (page 44) of his Report on Cheltenham Borough.

TABLE V.

DISTRICTS.	Estimated Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality	Zymotic Death Rate	DEATH RATES.										
						Small- Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	"Fever"	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea	Enteritis	Respiratory	Phthisis	Cancer
URBAN DISTRICTS—																
Awre	1,081	20·3	12·0	181	2·7	...	...	...	...	...	2·7	...	...	1·8	·9	...
Charlton Kings	3,930	24·9	10·9	174	·76	...	...	...	...	...	·25	·51	...	1·78	1·24	1·02
Cheltenham	50,500	19·0	14·1	133	·99	...	·06	·06	·04	...	·06	·77	·04	1·86	·61	1·13
Cirencester	7,565	24·9	13·8	52	·6	...	...	·13	...	·26	·26	...	...	2·3	1·7	1·3
Coleford	2,560	25·7	11·7	91	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	·3	3·1	·3	·3
Horfield	2,085	33·9	9·0	113	1·28	...	...	1·28	...	...	...	...	·64	1·28	·64	...
Kingswood	12,561	25·5	10·2	90	·47	...	·15	...	...	·07	·07	·15	·39	1·99	·95	·23
Nailsworth	3,039	21·1	15·1	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·32	·66	1·32
Newnham	1,118	16·1	14·3	55	·8	...	...	·8	...	...	...	...	·8	1·6	...	1·6
Stow-on-the-Wold	1,386	18·0	18·0	80	·72	...	...	...	·72	...	...	...	...	5·04	·72	2·8
Stroud	8,954	19·9	11·6	96	·22	...	...	...	...	...	·22	...	...	1·45	1·46	1·23
Tetbury	1,934	20·1	17·0	128	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·5	4·6	1·0
Tewkesbury	6,420	26·8	18·1	138	·56	...	...	·18	...	...	·18	·18	·92	1·66	1·85	1·29
Westbury-on Severn	1,824	25·0	12·0	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·0	...	1·0
TOTAL URBAN DISTRICTS	103,650	21·6	13·4	111	·73	...	·05	·07	·03	·03	·13	·42	·14	1·91	1·40	1·04
RURAL DISTRICTS—																
Barton Regis... ..	16,060	23·6	12·8	124	·53	·09	...	...	·09	·27	·09	·1	·27	1·42	1·33	·71
Campden	5,438	24·3	13·9	76	·5	...	...	...	·2	...	...	·3	·6	·6	·7	·9
Cheltenham	4,655	18·4	8·5	68	·22	...	·22	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·36	·64	1·07
Chipping Sodbury	16,581	27·3	14·1	76	·8	...	·15	...	...	·15	·11	·34	·15	2·60	·22	·6
Cirencester	11,839	23·5	13·4	98	·68	...	·08	·08	...	...	·42	...	...	1·3	·3	·9
Dursley	11,464	23·2	13·1	71	·34	...	...	·08	...	·08	·08	·08	·08	1·84	1·22	·34
East Dean and United Parishes	19,893	25·6	14·5	105	·8	...	·20	·10	...	·10	·20	·15	·3	2·4	·7	·8
Faringdon (Lechlade Parish)	1,179	28·8	11·0	69	·86	...	...	...	...	·85	...	...	·85	3·39	·85	·85
Gloucester	11,378	18·8	10·2	70	·7	...	...	...	·08	·16	·16	·25	·08	1·0	·6	1·0
Lydney	8,809	25·0	14·6	68	1·1	...	...	·1	·2	...	·8	...	...	1·9	·2	1·3
Marston Sicaa	1,434	20·9	16·7	33	1·3	...	...	...	...	·6	·6	...	...	...	...	2·0
Newent (part of)	7,067	20·2	14·3	42	·2	...	...	·1	·1	...	·1	...	...	3·5	·9	·8
Northleach	8,100	20·8	13·2	59	·24	...	...	...	...	...	·24	...	...	1·9	·37	·49
Pebworth	2,944	33·6	13·3	51	·02	...	...	...	...	...	·02	...	...	1·05	·06	·06
Stow-on-the-Wold (part of)	6,473	20·9	13·1	74	·15	...	...	·16	...	...	...	...	·16	2·78	1·08	·77
Stroud... ..	27,565	19·6	12·4	83	·28	...	...	·04	...	...	·25	...	...	1·81	1·23	1·16
Tetbury (part of)	3,757	21·6	9·05	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·9	...	·02
Tewkesbury	4,987	23·5	13·6	68	·40	...	...	...	...	...	·40	...	...	1·60	·80	·80
Thornbury	16,618	23·9	13·1	89	·48	...	...	·1	...	...	·3	·06	·06	2·4	·9	1·0
Warmley	17,051	26·7	14·3	132	1·29	...	·12	·29	·06	·12	·41	·29	·35	1·99	1·99	·41
West Dean	12,520	33·3	12·85	81	·55	...	...	·32	...	...	·16	·07	...	3·03	·6	·7
Wheatenhurst (Frampton)	3,784	27·0	16·6	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ (Haresfield)	2,240	22·8	13·4	59	·89	...	·44	...	...	·44	...	...	...	1·78	...	·89
Winchcombe	9,409	25·2	14·7	93	·64	...	...	...	...	...	·11	·53	·11	2·55	1·38	1·28
TOTAL RURAL DISTRICTS	230,250	23·6	13·1	90	·59	·004	·05	·08	·03	·07	·23	·12	·14	2·14	1·08	·84
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY	333,900	22·9	13·2	96	·63	·003	·05	·08	·03	·06	·20	·22	·14	2·07	1·18	·90



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified during 1904 was 1,494, of which number 22 were cases of Chicken Pox in two districts; this total is the lowest in any year of which I have records (from 1896) and with the exception of Small-Pox for each of the individual diseases.

SMALL POX.

Twenty-three cases of this disease were notified during 1904—the largest number since 1896—occurring in three districts: Kingswood Urban, and Barton Regis and Winchcombe Rural Districts. The eight cases in Winchcombe were caused by infection from a navvy on the new railway, and it would appear from the letter written by Dr. Davies (Medical Officer of Health to Bristol) to Dr. Crossman that some of the cases in Bristol and ten cases in the Barton Regis Rural District were connected with this outbreak in April and May; the total for the outbreak in the County was 18. The remaining five cases occurred in the Kingswood Urban District, the source of infection in this outbreak being a man from a common lodging-house in Bristol. Whether this outbreak started from the same primary source as the two others is not known.

Very interesting accounts are given in the Reports of the Medical Officers of Health, and will be found in the summaries (pages 54, 70, 123) of these Reports at the end of this book.

The Barton Regis cases were isolated, one on the Bristol Hospital Ship and the remaining nine in the Iron Hospital at Southmead, from which cases of other infectious disease were removed for this purpose; the Winchcombe cases in the Hospital on Langley Hill, while Kingswood hastily erected an

iron hospital for their cases on a field owned by them in Tennis Court Road, where are some temporary sewage works.

Mr. Cox (Winchcombe) records the case of a man who was vaccinated *after* he had been infected but *before* he sickened; “in due time he sickened, the rash came out fully upon him, in two days it had gone, the man was well and had “not the slightest mark upon him”—in other words the attack was aborted by vaccination, though the operation was performed *after* infection. A converse case is recorded by Mr. Perrott (Kingswood): a woman was chosen as nurse partly on the ground that she had already had small-pox and was badly marked by it; she had not been re-vaccinated. She contracted the disease but recovered.

The extent to which the county is protected by vaccination varies greatly in the various Unions in the County: as it happens the infection of small-pox last year was introduced into some of the best vaccinated districts, and the outbreaks were not so serious as they might have been. On the whole the County cannot be considered to be well protected, certainly less so than in the seventies: in 1878 there were 85·4 per cent. of successful vaccinations of children under one year of age to Births, the same as that for England and Wales generally. The percentage fell to 53·7 in 1894, and to 43·1 in 1898, while the percentages for the whole country were 70·4, and 61·0 respectively: fortunately there is a distinct tendency towards improvement in this respect, as by 1901 the percentage had risen to 61·4 (England and Wales 71·4) and was probably as high as 67 per cent. in 1903. The surrounding counties—Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Somersetshire, Wiltshire, and Warwickshire—appear to be much more efficiently protected in this respect than is this County.

SCARLET FEVER.

TABLE X.

	1904 †	1903 †	1902 †	1901 †	1900 †	1899 *	1898 *	1897	1896 *
Cases	936	1207	1615	1144	1293	1031	968	1239	1239
Deaths	17	19	32	22	27	18	13	24	43
Hospital Cases	345	382	385	228	317				
Case Fatality	1·82	1·58	1·98	1·9	2·1	1·67	1·34	1·94	3·07
Death rate per 1000	·05	·05	·10	·06	·08				
England and Wales : Death Rate per 1000	...	·13	·15	·13	·12	·12	·11	·14	·18

* Taken from Reports of Chairman of Sanitary Committee.

† Including the Wiltshire Parishes of Ashley and Long Newnton (Tetbury Rural District.)

‡ Excluding Wiltshire Parishes.

The number of cases of scarlet fever was smaller in 1904 than in any previous year for which records are available, but the fatality of the disease increased slightly. Most Medical Officers of Health remark that the disease has been of a mild type, but in certain limited outbreaks it has assumed a virulent form and been more than usually fatal, accounts of which will be found in the summaries for the various districts.

As usual, in many cases schools have been assigned as the chief cause of the spread of the disease owing to the continued attendance of mild, unrecognised cases. Some of these have been detected, and in all probability the spread of the disease has been checked by this action.

The proportion removed to isolation hospitals was 37 per cent. (66 per cent. in urban and 25 per cent. in rural districts) —the highest percentages since 1900.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.**TABLE XI.**

	1904 †	1903 †	1902 †	1901 †	1900 †	1899 *	1898 *	1897 *	1896 *
Cases	282	409	509	484	516	361	288	357	272
Deaths	25	33	62	47	62	61	57	71	62
Hospital Cases	46	50	58	160	123				
Case Fatality	8·87	8·07	12·2	9·7	12·0	16·9	19·8	22·2	22·8
Death rate per 1000	·08	·10	·19	·14	·18				
England and Wales : Death rate per 1000	...	·20	·26	·30	·31	·32	·20	·24	·20

* Taken from Reports of Chairman of Sanitary Committee.

† Including the Wiltshire Parishes of Ashley and Long Newnton (Tetbury Rural District).

‡ Excluding Wiltshire Parishes.

° Diphtheria and Croup.

The slight rise in fatality with a diminished number of cases already seen with respect to scarlet fever also obtains in diphtheria. The fatality of diphtheria, which had fallen from 22·8 in 1896 to 8·07 in 1903 (with a rise to 12·2 in 1902, an epidemic year), rose to 8·87 in 1904 ; 16 per cent. of the cases were treated in hospital.

School influence is again said in many instances to be the cause of the spread of the disease. In the introduction to his report on the Combined District Dr. Bond says : “ Diph-
“ theria is, even more than scarlet fever, mainly a product
“ of school aggregation, and our best hope of keeping it under
“ effective control is to prevent the effects of overcrowding
“ in schools, by not only increasing the amount of cubic
“ space allotted to each child, but by improving the means
“ for the healthy renewal of air by ventilation,” and in his Report on the Thornbury Rural District, “ the difficulty is
“ to prevent its re-introduction (into schools) in the throats
“ of children in which the infection of diphtheria may be

“still lingering in an unsuspected condition. The theoretical course under such circumstances is undoubtedly to have the throats of all the children in the school examined bacteriologically ; but this is rarely practicable.”

It is most certain that the action here suggested by Dr. Bond is the right one to follow, and every effort should be made to do this work. It hardly comes within the recognised duties of a Medical Officer of Health, who would, however, do what was possible for him. The arrangement made by the County Council for bacteriological examinations gives every inducement for the work, and removes one great difficulty.

FEVER.

(ENTERIC AND CONTINUED.)

TABLE XII.

	1904 †	1903 †	1902 †	1901 †	1900 †	1899 *	1898 *	1897 *	1896 *
Cases	50	96	109	105	179	163	96	100	82
Deaths	10	12	14	12	31	34	11	27	21
Hospital Cases	6	26	21	23	35				
Case Fatality	20·0	12·5	12·8	11·4	17·3	21·5	16·7	27·0	25·6
Death rate per 1000 ...	·03	·03	·05	·03	·09				
England and Wales : Death rate per 1000	...	·10	·13	·16	·17	·20	·30	·16	·17

* Taken from Report of Chairman of Sanitary Committee.

† Including the Wiltshire Parishes of Ashley and Long Newnton (Tetbury Rural District).

‡ Excluding Wiltshire Parishes.

The number of cases of typhoid fever has also reached a record minimum, but the fatality rose during 1904, as already stated for the diseases scarlet fever and diphtheria. There was no epidemic in any district. The greatest num-

ber of cases (11) occurred in the Warmley Rural District, but Dr. Murray says "all the cases, with the exception of one, "were imported from outside areas."

ERYSIPELAS.

It is a remarkable fact that the same slightly increased fatality occurred with respect to erysipelas, while the number of cases was the lowest in any year.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

The number of cases of this disease is the same as in 1903 (11), but there were only three deaths, making the fatality in 1904, 27·3—one-half what it was in 1903.

Speaking of the Combined District, Dr. Bond remarks :
"The East Dean Rural District exhibits the same pre-ponderance of notifications which it has shown in previous years. This state of things is due to causes which, it is to be hoped, will be gradually corrected as the effect of the Midwives' Act, 1902, comes to be felt, in weeding out the class of ignorant women who have hitherto carried on the midwives business, and in replacing them by properly-trained nurses who have been taught what the existing midwives cannot be got to learn, the essential importance of the highest degree of cleanliness in carrying on their work."

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

The summary of the position of the County with respect to Isolation Hospital accommodation at the end of 1904 is given in Table XIII., but complete information is wanting as to the nature of the existing Hospitals, as to their avail-

TABLE IX.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	Population, Census 1901.	Smallpox.			Chicken Pox.		Measles.		Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Group.			Fever.			Puerperal Fever.		Erysipelas.		Total.		
		Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.
Urban Districts—																								
Awre	1096	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Charlton Kings...	3806	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Cheltenham	49439	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143	3	134	59	3	28	7	1	1	...	...	25	...	234	7	163
Cirencester	7536	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	15	8	3	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	7	2	27	4	8
Coleford	2541	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	19	...	...
Horfield (3 Quarters of year)	1435	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	2	...
Kingswood	11961	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	1	46	2	15	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	8	...	77	4	5
Nailsworth	3028	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	13	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	17	...	1
Newnham	1184	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...
Stow-on-the-Wold	1386	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	7	1	...	...
Stroud	9153	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	7	1	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	9	1	24	1	9
Tetbury	1989	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tewkesbury	5419	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	39	...	34	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	4	...	49	1	34
Westbury-on-Severn	1866	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	...
Totals—Urban Districts ...	101839	5	..	5	4	...	...	8	282	5	185	102	6	29	19	3	3	4	1	57	3	473	21	222
Rural Districts—																								
Barton Regis (3 Quarters of year)...	15067	10	1	10	...	...	...	3	8	...	4	4	...	2	3	1	2	...	...	7	...	32	5	18
Campden	5441	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	3	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	22	1	...	...
Cheltenham	4637	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	1	34	11	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	52	1	38
Chipping Sodbury	17621	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	26	3	5	5	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	6	1	39	7	6
Cirencester	12084	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	1	14	14	1	10	...	...	...	1	6	...	42	3	24	...
Dursley	11636	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	28	...	7	18	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	49	2	7
East Dean and United Parishes	20011	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	75	4	8	37	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	116	8	8
Faringdon (part of)	1179	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1
Gloucester	10779	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	55	...	6	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	11	...	70	3	6
Lydney	8649	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	11	15	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	4	...	48	3	12
Marston Sicca	1485	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	1	5
Newent (part of)	7067	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	5	...	24	2	...
Northleach	8100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	...	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	36	1	32
Pebworth	2944	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	7
Stow-on-the-Wold (part of)	6473	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	17	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	40	1	...
Stroud	27793	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	21	1	81	3	...
Tetbury (part of)	3800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	22	...	...
Tewkesbury (part of)	4986	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	18	...	15
Thornbury	16565	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51	...	...	18	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	14	...	86	2	...
Warmley	15945	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	72	2	...	18	5	...	11	1	...	1	...	16	...	118	10	...
West Deau	12624	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	19	4	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	37	4	...
Wheatenhurst	{ F. 6105	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Winchcombe (part of)	{ H. 8709	8	...	8	...	...	...	...	1	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	15	2	...
Winchcombe (part of)	8709	8	...	8	...	...	...	...	42	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	56	...	19
Totals—Rural Districts ...	229700	18	1	18	18	...	...	15	654	12	160	180	19	17	31	7	3	7	2	113	3	1021	59	198
Administrative County ...	331539	23	1	23	22	...	...	18	936	17	345	282	25	46	50	10	6	11	3	170	6	1494	80	420

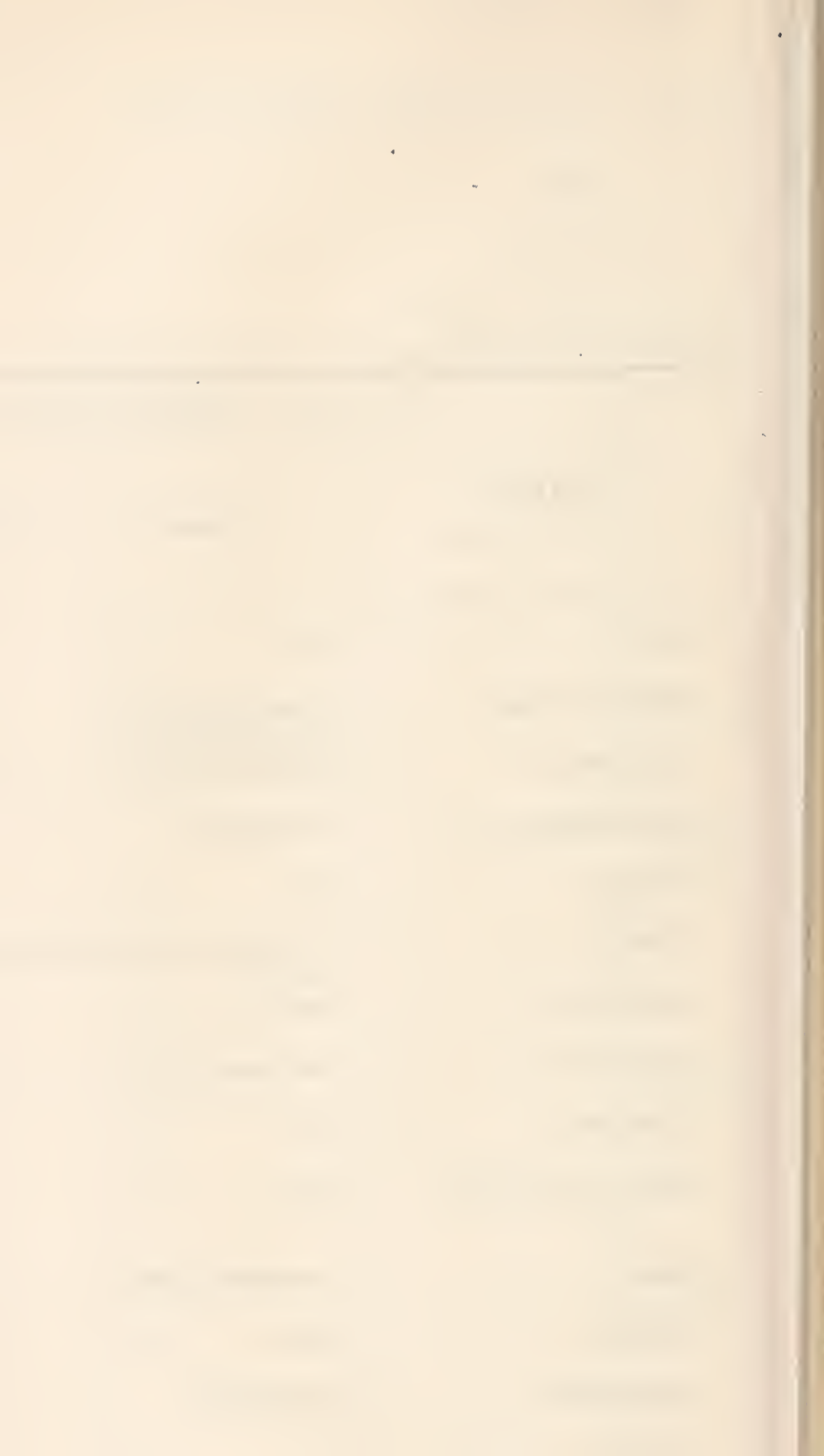


TABLE C.

[illegible]

ability for one or more diseases at a time, and as to the efficiency of the equipment. The value of an Isolation Hospital depends largely on its being always properly equipped and ready for use, so that first cases may be at once removed. There is some temptation to think that it is not worth while opening a hospital for one case only, with a possible—if not probable—result that more cases promptly arise, and the Hospital that was large enough for the initial cases becomes too small to deal with an epidemic; thus much of the value of the Hospital is thrown away.

During 1904 the experiences of previous years have again been repeated. When small-pox appeared District Councils were active in providing accommodation for this disease. For this reason the Kingswood Urban District and the Winchcombe Rural District have now provision for small-pox: both these buildings appear to be wooden hospitals covered with iron.

Of the 35 districts now in the county, it would appear that 10 have no accommodation for isolating cases of any infectious disease—six urban and four rural districts—that seven urban and 16 rural districts have no provision for small-pox, and that seven urban and five rural districts have none for general diseases. I have no information as to the nature of the building in many cases, and am not at present in a position to speak in detail of the character of the accommodation provided; but six of the small-pox hospitals and three of the hospitals for general infectious diseases have at one time or other been described in annual reports as being of wood or iron.

During March of this year a letter from the County Councils' Association raised the question as to whether the requirements of the Local Government Board for Isolation

Hospitals could not be modified, and the cost of providing hospitals be considerably reduced. That the actual cost of these hospitals is not altogether caused by the stringency of the Local Government Board requirements would appear to be shown by the very wide variation in the cost per bed in different instances, so wide a variation as £200 to £578 : the Stroud Joint Hospital cost £284 per bed.

This cost is in the case of the smaller districts prohibitive, and possibly is the chief reason that no provision has been made in many cases even where the Councils have evidently recognised the necessity of hospital accommodation. Combination of districts effects economy to a great extent both in original cost and in maintenance : it is in this direction that the best solution of the problem will be found, and is one which has been urged in these reports each year and by Medical Officers of Health throughout the county. One of the combinations suggested in the Report of the Sanitary Committee in 1896 has been realised in the Stroud Joint Hospital completed last year, though as yet Wheatenhurst Rural District has not taken part in it.

At the present time the Local Government Board will not sanction a loan for the purposes of erecting a Hospital unless it is of a permanent character and fulfils certain conditions with regard to air space, &c. These conditions as to air space cannot be safely disregarded, but whether it would be advisable in certain cases to satisfy the needs of a district or a combination of districts by building a permanent administrative block and ward blocks of a more temporary character is a matter which might well be considered. If a loan is sanctioned, 50 or 60 years is allowed for re-payment on the land for the site, and 26 to 30 years on the buildings, &c. Should ward blocks of a less permanent

structure be at any time allowed the period for payment would certainly be very considerably reduced. As I pointed out in my Report for 1904 the expense of establishing separate small-pox hospitals would be entirely omitted were this country as efficiently protected by vaccination as in Germany; the difficulty in finding a suitable site for these hospitals is even greater than for hospitals for general diseases. Against the cost of providing and maintaining isolation hospitals must be placed the saving effected not only by the prevention of disease and death, but also in the dislocation of business and loss resulting.

The districts without Hospitals at the end of 1904 were :

<i>Urban.</i>	<i>Rural.</i>
Awre.	Campden.
Coleford.	Stow-on-the-Wold.
Newnham.	Tetbury.
Stow-on-the-Wold.	West Dean.
Tetbury.	
Westbury-on-Severn.	

Of these 10 districts, Campden has partial provision in the shape of four beds at the Moreton Cottage Hospital, which are available for two parishes.

On the instructions of the Sanitary Committee a letter enquiring the position in this matter was sent in October, 1904, to the Councils of the nine remaining districts and also of Kingswood Urban District: the latter Council has since erected a hospital (iron and wood) of 6 beds for small-pox. The answers received were :—

URBAN.—

Awre.—None.

Coleford.—“ The question is just where it was
“ when the Committees were appointed, no

“suitable site with a supply of water having
“been found.”

Newnham.—“This subject has been very fully con-
“sidered by the three Councils, and they are
“unanimously of opinion that for the present
“no special accommodation is necessary, the
“neighbourhood being sparsely populated, and
“neither of the Councils ever having had any
“difficulty in hospitalizing the few cases
“which have arisen.”

Stow-on-the-Wold.—“Provision has been made for
“small-pox cases, this Council having with
“the Rural Council a Hospital tent. With
“regard to an Hospital for infectious cases,
“this Council had offered to join the Rural
“Council in a scheme for the provision of a
“Joint Hospital, but the scheme has not been
“proceeded with.”

Tetbury.—“No provision has yet been made.”

Westbury-on-Severn.—“There is no accommodation
“for infectious diseases. If a case should
“arise, the Urban District Council would
“isolate the house.”

RURAL.—

Stow-on-the-Wold.—“The Council have made pro-
“vision for cases of small-pox, they having
“conveniently stored a Hospital Marquee with
“the necessary appurtenances for a Field Hos-
“pital. With respect to Infectious Diseases
“cases and their isolation, the Council have
“lately considered the matter in conjunction
“with the Stow Urban District Council, and

“came to the conclusion that the provision of
“such a Hospital is an unnecessary expense.”
Tetbury.—“My Council have made no provision
“for dealing with outbreaks of infectious
“disease, and the question is now in abey-
“ance.”

West Dean.—“Cases of infectious disease have
“always, by them, been dealt with success-
“fully, and they see no reason for departing
“from their present practice, which ensures
“complete isolation.”

The remarks made in the annual Reports by the Medical
Officers of Health for these Districts are :

URBAN.—

Awre.—No change.

Coleford.—“It is frequently exceedingly difficult
“to avert an epidemic ” owing to the want of a
hospital.

Newnham.—No change.

Stow-on-the-Wold.—Mr. Dening “much regrets
“the Rural Council did not see their way to
“combine with the Urban in the formation of
“a Joint Hospital.”

Tetbury.—“The last possible source of trouble is
“the want of any means for isolating serious
“cases of infectious disease, and especially
“small-pox. . . . An infected tramp
“may any day bring it into the town. In
“such a case the difficulty of dealing with it
“might be very great, and the only resource
“would be wholesale re-vaccination.”

Westbury-on-Severn.—No change.

RURAL.—

Stow-on-the-Wold.—"Your District is still without an Isolation Hospital, rendering effective isolation of infectious cases impossible."

Tetbury.—"A trained nurse was provided, through the interposition of the Duchess of Beaufort, and the infection (of scarlet fever) was thus brought under control."

West Dean.—"The District is not provided with an isolation hospital."

The arrangement of the Warmley Rural District with Keynsham (which the Medical Officer of Health has frequently described as unsatisfactory and as too remote for use) came to an end in March last, so that this District is also now without hospital accommodation. For the past four years Dr. Murray has urged the advisability of joining with Kingswood, and in 1903, at the request of a Joint Committee, made a report on the matter with Mr. Perrott (Medical Officer of Health, Kingswood Urban District). This year Dr. Murray says "there has been great difficulty in finding a site; but this must be overcome, as good sites are plentiful. I think it would be wise to call in the aid of the County Council in this matter."

The arrangement between the Urban and Rural Districts of Tewkesbury for the use of the former hospital for general infectious diseases and the latter hospital for small-pox came to an end in November last. Both these Districts are now, therefore, without accommodation for small-pox. (See Report for Tewkesbury Rural District, page 109, and Tewkesbury Borough, page 67).

The chief additions during 1904 to the Isolation Accommodation in the County were :—

Kingswood Urban.—An iron and wood hospital of 6 beds erected for small-pox on a field owned by the Council.

Nailsworth Urban } Joint Isolation Hospital of 44 beds,
 Stroud „ } fully equipped, opened in December,
 Stroud Rural } 1904.

East Dean Rural.—Ambulance bought.

Lydney Rural.—Proposal to add nursing annexe.

The Districts with hospitals of which little use appears to have been made in 1904 are :—

Chipping Sodbury ...	26	cases of	Scarlet Fever...	5	removed.
Dursley ...	28	do.	do.	7	do.
East Dean ...	75	do.	do.	8	do.
Gloucester ...	55	do.	do.	6	do.
Winchcombe ...	42	do.	do.	11	do.

Other remarks on the subject will be found in the District summaries at the end of this Report.

BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS.

Many Medical Officers of Health again express their appreciation of the value of the arrangements made by the County Council for bacteriological examinations, and doubtless to this has in some measure been due the small amount of diphtheria in the County. Professor Stanley Kent in October last kindly agreed to include in the work examinations of specimens of sputum in suspected cases of consumption. I append a Report on the results received from Professor Stanley Kent.

REPORT on the Bacteriological Examinations carried out for the Diagnosis of Infectious Disease during the year 1904.

The importance of bacteriological examinations for the diagnosis of infectious disease is becoming more

recognised year by year. In 1902 Dr. Middleton Martin drew attention to the subject in connection with the County of Gloucester, and about the middle of March, 1903, some of the District Councils made independent arrangements for such examinations to be carried out. This action was followed at the beginning of 1904 by the arrangement entered into by the County Council, whereby it became possible for any registered medical man in the Administrative County of Gloucester to send for examination, free of cost, material collected from patients suspected of suffering from Enteric Fever or Diphtheria.

The arrangement allowed of examinations being made in the case of "Suspects," persons suspected of having the disease; "Contacts," persons who had been in contact with a patient suffering from the disease; "Controls," persons examined at the termination of an attack in order to establish freedom from infection.

At the end of October Tuberculosis was added to the list of diseases in which a free bacteriological examination was available.

Owing partly to the length of time unavoidably occupied in bringing the new arrangements to the notice of practitioners throughout the County, and partly to the fact that a period of exceptional freedom from Diphtheria and Enteric Fever coincided with the establishment of the new *regime*, at first the number of specimens examined per week was small. Now, however, it has largely increased, and not only do the medical men of the County take full advantage of the facilities offered, but many of them have written expressing appreciation for assistance received.

Of the first three hundred specimens examined in 1905, two hundred and forty three were for Diphtheria. Of these, ninety six were positive, and one hundred and forty seven negative. Thirty nine were for Enteric Fever; of these,

seventeen were positive and twenty two negative. Eighteen were for Tubercle, of which six were positive and twelve negative.

The number of specimens examined for Tubercle will probably be much larger in the future, as the above represents only the examinations carried out in two months during which the arrangements allowing of free examinations in this subject were probably imperfectly known.

A *resumé* is appended showing these results in detail, and also a table showing the gradual increase in the number of specimens sent in for examination per month as the scheme became more widely known.

A. F. STANLEY KENT.

University College, Bristol.

RESUMÉ OF RESULTS.				
DIPHTHERIA	...	{ Positive 96 Negative 147 }	=	243
ENTERIC FEVER		{ Positive 17 Negative 22 }	=	39
TUBERCLE	...	{ Positive 6 Negative 12 }	=	18
				<hr/> 300

TABLE. XIV.

1904.	DIPHTHERIA.	ENTERIC FEVER.	TUBERCLE.	TOTAL.
March ...	7	4	...	11
April ...	12	6	...	18
May ...	13	7	...	20
June ...	12	1	...	13
July ...	19	3	...	22
August ...	15	3	...	18
September ...	24	4	...	28
October ...	33	3	2	38
November ...	63	4	9	76
December ...	46	9	8	63

COUNTY NOTIFICATION.

The returns made by Medical Officers of Health of the number of cases of notifiable diseases which occur in the various districts in the County are tabulated weekly, and the summary sheet is sent to each Medical Officer of Health. The information thus given is of great value, especially in view of the continued presence of Small-pox in the County.

WATER SUPPLY.

Reference is made by many of the Medical Officers of Health in their Reports for 1904 to shortness of water owing to the smaller rainfall for the year, and the need of certain districts has been accordingly emphasised: the most pressing cases appear to be those of Coleford Urban and East and West Dean Rural Districts. The water supply for this neighbourhood has been under consideration for many years, and proposals have been made at various times that the three districts should combine for the purpose of obtaining a good water supply for the whole Forest. Coleford has a supply at the present, but it would appear to be inadequate for the needs of the Town; Cinderford in East Dean is supplied from a well at Green Bottom, which has from time to time been further tapped, but apparently not with the result of finding sufficient water, as further proposals for the same purpose were made during 1904, and Dr. Bond reports that Drybrook and Ruardean Hill are in "urgent want," and that in other parts of the District there is scarcity. In 1901 it was proposed that water should be pumped from a disused pit at Shakemantle, and correspondence with a view to some arrangement being made passed between the Crown (the owner of the Forest) and the Councils concerned; nothing appears to have come of this, and in 1903 Coleford bored for water unsuccessfully in Birchamp Wood. It would appear

TABLE IX.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	Population, Census 1901.	Smallpox.			Chicken Pox.		Measles.		Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Group.			Fever.			Puerperal Fever.		Erysipelas.		Total.			
		Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Hospital Cases.	
Urban Districts—																									
Awre	1096								3													3			
Charlton Kings... ..	3806								3		2											3		2	
Cheltenham	49439								143	3	134	59	3	28	7	1	1			25		234	7	163	
Cirencester	7536							2	15		8	3			1					7	2	27	4	8	
Coleford	2541								16			1			1					1		19			
Horfield (3 Quarters of year)	1435								2			2	2							1		5	2		
Kingswood	11961	5		5				1	46	2		15			1					1		77	4	5	
Nailsworth	3028								2			13		1						8		17		1	
Newnham	1184											4	1									4	1		
Stow-on-the-Wold	1386								2						5	1						7	1		
Stroud	9153								11		7	1			3		2				9	1	24	1	9
Tetbury	1989																								
Tewkesbury	5419				4				39		34	1			1	1					4		49	1	34
Westbury-on-Severn	1866											3						1				4			
Totals—Urban Districts ...	101839	5	..	5	4	...	...	3	282	5	185	102	6	29	19	3	3	4	1	57	3	478	21	222
Rural Districts—																									
Barton Regis (3 Quarters of year)...	15067	10	1	10				3	8		4	4		2	3	1	2			7		32	5	18	
Campden	5441								17			3			2	1						22	1		
Cheltenham	4637								35	1	34	11		4	3					3		52	1	38	
Chipping Sodbury	17621							3	26	3	5	5			2		1			6	1	39	7	6	
Cirencester	12084								22	1	14	14	1	10					1	6		42	3	24	
Dursley	11636								1	28	7	18	1		1					2		49	2	7	
East Dean and United Parishes	20011							2	75	4	8	37	2					2		2		116	8	8	
Faringdon (part of)	1179								2		1				1							3		1	
Gloucester	10779							2	55		6	2			2	1									
Lydney	8649								28		11	15	1	1	1	2						70	3	6	
Marston Sicca	1485								1	5	5									4		48	3	12	
Newent (part of)	7067								16			2	1		1	1						6	1	5	
Northleach	8100								32		32				1	1				5		24	2		
Pebworth	2944								7		7							1		3	1	36	1	32	
Stow-on-the-Wold (part of)	6473				18				17			3	1									7		7	
Stroud	27793								49			10	1					1	1	21	1	81	3		
Tetbury (part of)	3800								21											1		22			
Tewkesbury (part of)	4986								15		15									2		18		15	
Thornbury	16565								51			18	2		3					14		86	2		
Warmley	15945							2	72	2		18	5		11	1		1		16		118	10		
West Dean	12624								15			19	4		1			1		1		37	4		
Wheatenhurst	{ F. 6105								2													2			
Winchcombe (part of)	{ H. 8709	8		8					1	14	1									1		15	2		
									42		11	1								5		56		19	
Totals—Rural Districts ...	229700	18	1	18	18	...	...	15	654	12	160	180	19	17	31	7	3	7	2	113	3	1021	59	198
Administrative County ...																									
	331539	23	1	23	22	...	...	18	936	17	345	282	25	46	50	10	6	11	3	170	6	1494	80	420

that the solution of the matter is no nearer than it was years ago, and Dr. Bond writes in his Report to the East Dean Rural District Council, "The solution of the problem seems "to be largely in the hands of the Crown, to whom the "Forest belongs, to whom the development of all its re- "sources should be of the first importance, and to whom also "the public are justified in looking for all the facilities which "are necessary to encourage private enterprise, as well as "municipal effort in this direction."

The question is all the more urgent, as on the solution of it depends not only the provision of an Isolation Hospital for part of the Forest, but also the development of sewerage in various parts of the District. With respect to the latter Dr. Bond draws attention to the need for caution in this matter, owing to the water required for flushing drains not being available. With respect to the former, in 1901 the County Council made an Order combining Coleford Urban and West Dean Districts for the purpose of the provision of a Joint Isolation Hospital, but nothing has been done to carry the Order into effect, as no suitable site with an available supply of water could be found.

Many of the local public water supplies in various parts of the County have been provided by private beneficence and enterprise ; the following are those mentioned in recent annual Reports:—

NEWNHAM URBAN.—Constant supply provided by Mr. Woods in 1896.

CHELTENHAM RURAL.—*Uckington* Village supplied by Mr. Gibbons.

CIRENCESTER RURAL.—Piped by landowners (in most cases) to *Daglingworth, Duntisbourne Rouse, Fairford, Hatherop, Kemble, Quenington, North Cerney, Rodmarton, and Stratton.*

DURSLEY RURAL.—Mrs. Eyre's supply to a part of *Dursley.*

PEBWORTH RURAL.—Supply to *Childswickham* by Mr. Bazley.

TETBURY RURAL.—*Avening* supplied by public subscription of £700.

Shipton Moyne
Weston Birt
Lasborough } by Holford Estate.

Cherington.—By Miss George.

Long Newnton.—By the late Mr. Sotheron Estcourt.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.—

Lower and Upper Swell.

Maugersbury.—By Mr. Hewitt.

STROUD RURAL.—

Randwick.—By the late Mr. Carpenter.

The duty of seeing that their areas are provided with a sufficient supply of wholesome water rests with the District Councils.

The chief remarks on the subject of water supply in the reports for 1904 are :—

URBAN.

CHELTENHAM BOROUGH.—Additional filters provided.

CIRENCESTER.—New pumping station to be provided.
 Some wells polluted by a blocked sewer.

COLEFORD.—Scarcity ; boring in Birchamp Wood failed.

KINGSWOOD.—West Gloucestershire Company's supply intermittent for three months while pumps were being lowered.

NAILSWORTH.—Important spring failed : Company's mains to be extended.

STROUD.—Lower rainfall : less yield. Temporary pumping from Gainey's Well to upper reservoir : permanent arrangement being made.

RURAL.

CAMPDEN.—

Moreton-in-Marsh.—Scheme for supply from Upper Swell before Local Government Board.

Bourton-on-the-Hill.—Proposed new Moreton supply no use for Bourton : present supply not satisfactory.

Chipping Campden.—Scheme for supply from Westing to be completed by March, 1905.

CHELTENHAM.—Increasing need in many localities.

CHIPPING SODBURY.—

Frampton Cotterell mains extended.

Chipping Sodbury.—Danger of contamination of principal well by sewer.

CIRENCESTER.—No work of any importance and no need for it.

DURSLEY.—Low rainfall ; many wells nearly dry.

EAST DEAN.—Important need : pressing, Drybrook and Ruardean Hill. Two proposals.

(1) Further tapping at Green Bottom.

(2) General Water storage of Forest coal field.

LYDNEY.—

Lydney.—200 connections with new supply.

Alvington } Considering joining Lydney.
Aylburton }

MARSTON SICCA.—

Long Marston.—Hope to report next year that what can be done is done.

PEBWORTH.—

Weston-sub-Edge supply to be augmented by a spring yielding 2,000 gallons a day.

STROUD.—Less yield owing to low rainfall.

Painswick.—Loan of £3000 applied for. Six parishes in area over which Water Company has rights not yet supplied.

Woodchester.—Mains to be extended to this parish during 1905.

TEWKESBURY.—

Pamington.—Supply ran short for very considerable portion of year; hence dependent on pools and village stream. Best to extend Cheltenham mains from Ashchurch.

Kemerton.—Houses being slowly connected with the new supply.

THORNBURY.—

Berkeley.—Supply to some houses from spring at Wanswell by Lord Fitzhardinge.

Thornbury.—Some extension of mains.

The Marsh.—Supply needed, now dependent on “rhine” water.

WARMLEY.—Some small improvement in three parishes.

Other parts need supply.

WEST DEAN.—In periods of drought supplies fail.

WHEATENHURST.—No water supply at Nastend in Company’s area.

WINCHCOMBE.—

Beckford.—Loan for supply from springs at Grafton sanctioned.

Guiting Power.—Supply inadequate. Nothing done.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In most of the Rural Districts the common method of disposal of excrement appears to be the "privy vault," which is condemned by all Medical Officers of Health as causing nuisance, and, what is much more serious still, pollution of the ground and of local water supplies. The return on this subject is by no means complete, but it appears that about 20 per cent. of the notices served by Sanitary Inspectors in Rural Districts are occasioned by nuisance from privy vaults and the necessity of having them emptied. The tendency to establish closets flushed by water for privy vaults does more harm than good; for, in comparatively few rural districts are there proper arrangements for the reception and treatment of water-carried sewage, and leaky cesspools are made which pollute underground waters still more. The next step is that an expensive scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal is forced on the parish or village owing to the selfishness of a few who have introduced water-closets and drains into places where they ought to be unknown. In rural places excrement should be disposed of in earth closets and slop-waters on the surface of the ground. An excellent form of combined privy and ash-pit was described and illustrated by Mr. Fosbroke in his first summary for this Council in October, 1901. Dr. Buchanan remarks this year that "this form of closet is viewed with more favour in the West Dean Rural District than when first introduced."

The chief points in the Annual Reports for 1904 on this subject are :—

Urban :—

CHARLTON KINGS.—Drainage of older and smaller houses improving.

CHELTENHAM BOROUGH.—Loan for new “main carriers.” The Borough Engineer has prepared a Report upon the best system of bacterial treatment of sewage for Cheltenham.*

CIRENCESTER.—Seven sections of old sewers have been replaced by new. Some complaints of nuisance at the sewage farm were due to “temporary and accidental causes.”

COLEFORD.—Sewers discharge into stream, which is “arched” in the town. Nothing appears to have been done to remedy the “very unsatisfactory sewerage and drainage arrangements” found in 1899 by Dr. Fletcher (Medical Inspector of the Local Government Board).

KINGSWOOD.—Conham section of scheme (with bacterial disposal works) completed. The loan of £17,500 for the Warmley section had not yet been sanctioned.

NAILSWORTH.—Scheme prepared. Provisional agreement for purchase of land for disposal works. Resolution to apply for £15,000. Delay owing to notice of works outside district.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.—Insufficient and defective privy accommodation.

Rural :—

CAMPDEN.—Sewers when blocked are cleaned. Scheme for *Moreton-in-Marsh* by Willcox and Raikes now before Local Government Board.

CHELTENHAM.—Rural District suffers from urban sewage farm.

Prestbury.—Scheme before Council by Mr. C. N. Lailey, £2,500.

* See also Reports for Rural Districts of Cheltenham (Staverton), page 76, and Tewkesbury, page 110.

Shurdington.—Subsoil water kept out. Farm more satisfactory now Council has control.

Staverton.—Receives urban sewage. Sickness of septic type.

Uckington.—Nuisances from sewage farm frequently reported.

CHIPPING SODBURY.—

Wickwar.—Local Government Board Inquiry on application for £1,400 to carry out Mr. W. Naylor's scheme for extension of disposal works.

Yate.—Connections with highway drain on Station Road.

CIRENCESTER.—No case of urgent need.

Fairford.—Some improvements.

Poulton.—Some improvements.

North Cerney.—Some improvements by intercepting sewage.

DURSLEY.—

Dursley.—Scheme nearly completed.

Cam.—Scheme nearly completed.

Wotton-under-Edge.—Replacement and ventilation of sewers wanted.

EAST DEAN.—

Cinderford.—Extension of main sewers 319 yards to Littledean Hill and Bilson Green. Complaints of disposal works, one acre for 70,000 gallons per day, dry weather flow.

GLOUCESTER.—Complaints at times of nuisance at outfall.

LYDNEY.—

Lydney.—Much improved. Difficulty at outfall owing to small gradient. Part replaced. Mount Pleasant not yet dealt with.

PEBWORTH.—Sewers opened and cleansed in various parishes.

STROUD.—Five parishes under consideration.

Cainscross and Rodborough.—180 connections now made.

Thrupp.—Finished August, 1904. Fifty connections.

Woodchester.—Loan of £3,000 sanctioned. Sewage to disposal works at Cainscross.

Painswick.—Loan of £6,000 applied for, but special area not yet settled.

TEWKESBURY.—

Kemerton.—Houses being connected with new sewers.

Newtown, Ashchurch.—Scheme now before Local Government Board. Medical Officer of Health anticipates that another Inquiry (the sixth on this matter) will be held this year.

THORNBURY.—

Berkeley and Sharpness.—Only two places sewered. Outfalls in Severn.

WARMLEY.—

Mangotsfield.—Effluent good enough to flow to brook.

WEST DEAN.—Combined privy and ashpit adopted more.

WHEATENHURST.—Ditches cleaned out. Privy vaults a danger to water supplies.

WINCHCOMBE.—

Beckford.—£2,000 sanctioned for Willcox and Raikes' scheme.

Cleeve Hill.—£1,200 applied for to carry out Mr. J. Villar's scheme.

RIVERS POLLUTION.

The remarks made on this subject in the Reports for 1904 are but few. Some of the cases complained of in previous years are being dealt with, particularly in those parts situated on the tributaries of the Thames, where pressure is brought to bear on the District Councils by the Thames Conservators.

The three streams to which attention has most frequently been drawn in this connection are the Siston Brook at Kingswood, the Frome at Mangotsfield, and the Wickwar Brook. Kingswood has carried out a scheme dealing with one part of the district, and has prepared one to deal with the remainder. The effluent from the Mangotsfield sewage works is stated to be good enough to pass into the Frome, and the Chipping Sodbury Rural District Council have received the sanction of the Local Government Board for a loan to extend the Wickwar Disposal Works.

HOUSING.

The remarks made on this subject do not call for any special comment, but it appears from the Reports that in the majority of cases plans are submitted for the approval of houses before houses are built, even in districts where building bye-laws have not been adopted. No District Council adopted building bye-laws during 1904.

BYE-LAWS AND URBAN POWERS.

No change appears to have been made in the bye-laws and regulations in the various districts in the County during 1904. A Table of the "urban powers" conferred on Rural District Councils in this County from 1888 to 1903 has been

prepared, and shows that those under Section 44 (Nuisances) and Section 157 (New Buildings) are the urban powers for which application has been most generally made. During these 16 years urban powers were conferred on eight rural District Councils under Section 44, and seven under Section 157, Public Health Act, 1875.

SCHOOLS.

The chief mention of schools in the Reports this year is in connection with their well-known influence in the spread of infectious diseases, numerous instances being given. From a communication received from the Secretary for Education 65 public elementary schools were closed for varying periods during 1904—some by the Sanitary Authority and some by the Managers—owing to the prevalence of infectious diseases, more particularly measles and whooping cough.

The closure of schools is regarded by the Local Government Board as a “grave step” and “a measure that seldom “ought to be enforced.” It is, however, often done, not so much in the hope of stopping the spread of measles or whooping cough—the most common causes—as for the sake of the grant (from the Board of Education), which would otherwise be lost to the school owing to the greatly reduced attendance. That the “grave step” of closure is so often taken is due to the system on which the attendance is at present calculated, but if this system were modified the present inducement for closure could be removed. An instance of this can be found in a recent outbreak of measles in the Stroud Union, where over 1,000 cases occurred.

During the epidemic 15 schools were closed—at the request of the school authorities, for the sake of the grant—for varying periods. The results of an inquiry on the subject showed that the following were the proportions of children on the books and of total cases in the various standards :—

Standard	vii.	vi.	v.	iv.	iii.	ii.	i.	Infants	
% on Books		25·0		12·2	11·5	11·2	12·3	over 5	under 5
% of Cases		7·5		7·3	7·7	9·8	13·5	29·0	25·1

From this it will be seen nearly 49 per cent. of the children are in standards from III. upwards. Only $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the cases occurred in these standards. Standard II. downwards contain 51 per cent. of the children, but $77\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the cases were in these standards, and 25 per cent. in infants under five. Thus, owing to the diminished attendances in these lower standards, the education of the older children—to whom a few weeks more or less at school is of some importance—was unnecessarily interrupted. Had it been possible, by some change in the system on which the grant is made, to exclude these lower standards (instead of closing the school), the whole of the teaching staff would have been available for those children who could benefit most by the attention. This inquiry also affords evidence in favour of excluding infants under five years of age from attendance at school. All the 13 deaths during this epidemic certified as due to measles were of infants under the age of five years.

Dr. Garrett—in January, 1905—made an excellent Report on the public elementary schools in Cheltenham, a copy of which was sent to the County Council. The conditions found in each school are given in detail, and remedies are suggested. Dr. Garrett devotes sections of his Report

to the medical inspection of school children and the feeding of school children. For the former purpose he advocates the employment of women "Health Visitors," working under the Medical Officer of Health. "Health Visitors" have already been employed in many counties, primarily with the intention of minimising infantile mortality, though their sphere of action is being gradually extended. Dr. Garrett's Report is a most valuable addition to the subject of schools.

A Report on the results of the experimental scheme of medical inspection of children attending the public elementary schools in the Stroud Union will be presented to the Special Committee, but it may here shortly be stated that the experiment has demonstrated the necessity of some action being taken in this matter, though possibly not on the lines originally proposed.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

A report on the Administration of the above Act will shortly be presented to the Sanitary Committee. A list of over 600 women who have acted as midwives in the County has been obtained from various sources, *i.e.*, about one to every 550 persons in the Administrative County. Some of these act only occasionally in this capacity; the number of those who had registered with the Central Midwives Board and had given notice of their intention to practise in this County up to the 9th June was 173.

Some interesting remarks made by Dr. Bond on this subject will be found in the paragraph dealing with "Puerperal Fever" (page 18), and by Mr. Fowell-Turner under Isolation Hospital (page 110).

SUMMARIES
OF
ANNUAL REPORTS
OF
Medical Officers of Health, 1904.

Area 4,329 Acres.	Population 1891	..	1,148
	1901	..	1,096
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	52 (4·5 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,081
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

Dr. Bond says: "With the exception of the small town of Blakeney, the district is essentially a rural one, with a sparse population, the male part of whom are engaged as colliers in the Forest Collieries and the remainder in agriculture, salmon fishing and miscellaneous pursuits."

HOUSING.

One house was cleansed.

SEWERAGE.

The sum of £13 16s. 10d. was expended during the year.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

"I have at different times visited the slaughter-houses and bake-houses in Blakeney, and found them in a satisfactory condition."

"The number of workers employed both at and off the workshops is unusually large for the size and character of the district."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Three cases were notified, one of scarlet fever and two of erysipelas. In the former case "the infection was imported from Wales by friends who had been staying in the house. The patient was isolated at home, and the infection did not spread."

After a period of nine years of immunity from the disease, an epidemic of whooping cough occurred during 1904, and caused three deaths. One school was closed.

Area 3,399 Acres.	Population 1891	..	2,995
	1901	..	3,806
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	811 (27·1 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	3,930
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. H. Bansall Todd, M.R.C.S.

GENERAL.

Mr. Todd says that “the general health of the District has been “good, and I have again to note the fact that the year has been “remarkable for the absence of infectious disease.” Three cases of scarlet fever were notified, and two were removed to the Delancey Fever Hospital. Mr. Todd refers to the advantage of having a good water supply.

The value of sterilisation of milk is dwelt on, and attention drawn to “the well-recognised fact that all milk supplies are liable to accidental contamination.”

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. B. Hack) details improvements made in the drainage arrangements of certain houses, and records one case of overcrowding, which was abated by the removal of the family to a larger cottage. It is said that “the general “condition of dairy farms and cowsheds is satisfactory.”

Area 4,726 Acres.	Population 1891	..	47,121
	1901	..	49,439
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	2,318 (4·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	50,500
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. J. H. Garrett, M.D., D.P.H.

Cheltenham is the largest town in the Administrative County, and is the only town which has a whole-time Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. Garrett's Annual Reports are always very comprehensive, and deal so fully with the conditions affecting the public health, that it is impossible in the short summary that this necessarily is to do full justice to the many interesting subjects he discusses, and but a short *resumé* can be given.

In the introduction to his Report Dr. Garrett says "the year "has, on the whole, been uneventful from the Public Health point of view," and draws attention to the necessity of comparing series of years together to arrive at a correct appreciation of the meaning of death rate. "When this is done we obtain satisfactory evidence of "a satisfactory lessening of the death rate in Cheltenham." In a series of short essays Dr. Garrett discusses a few special subjects in each of his Annual Reports, and this year has selected "Zymotic "Diseases, The Housing of the Poor Problem, The Treatment of "Cheltenham Sewage, Privately-owned Sewers, Private and Public "Slaughter-Houses, The Use of Preservatives in Food Stuffs, and "Schools and School Children."

He again appeals for better accommodation for the Health Department, and with considerable justice. As Dr. Garrett says: "The "town is dependent on the Medical Officer of Health to take interest,

“and exercise his abilities in making every inquiry into the cause of
“disease which would tend to safeguard the public, by such analyses,
“bacteriological studies, microscopical examinations, etc., as he
“may think well to make and find time to enter into ; but this cannot
“be expected of him unless he be provided with the means, and
“particularly with a comfortable place in which to work. It is not
“to the advantage of any Corporation that the offices of its workers
“should be unfit or uncomfortable, and in no sense is it good policy
“to have them so. A good many towns appear to have appreciated
“this fact, and have built good offices ; but this town cannot be
“numbered amongst them at the present moment.”

STATISTICS.

The birth-rate (19·0) is one of the lowest in the County, which is probably to be largely accounted for by the age and sex distribution in the population. The infantile mortality is high (133), but Dr. Garrett remarks that the “experience of the previous year (1903),
“when the infant death-rate was only 87, makes it seem quite
“possible for a lower rate to be attained. As the Registrar-General
“has just recently seen fit to allow Medical Officers of Health to
“have a return of the births each week, with particulars of address,
“etc., it will henceforward be easy to ascertain the exact relative
“degree of viability of children born in houses of different class, and
“to consider the possibility of taking some action to prevent the
“early deaths of so many infants, for, with the increasing tendency
“on the part of women to shirk the trouble of motherhood, infant
“lives are likely to come to be held more precious from a national
“point of view in the future than in the past. From the present
“statistics of births it is evident that the mothering of the nation
“is not being done from the best material. In this town, as elsewhere,
“a very large proportion of all the births have taken place in the
“poorer houses, whilst the physically and mentally best developed
“exhibit but a very limited parentage. It is, therefore, important
“indeed, that the few that are born of the best should be kept alive.”

The death-rate rose from 12.7 in 1903 to 14.1 in 1904, which is, however, below the ten years' average (of 15.2): "70 per cent. of the increase of deaths which took place in 1904, as compared with 1903, were in children under five, and there was an increase of 36 deaths in children under one year old." Thirty-two of the infantile deaths were attributed to diarrhœa, which disease, Dr. Garrett says, "as it occurs in Cheltenham, is a distinctly epidemic and well-defined zymotic disorder. The origin of the disease is uncertain, but is probably in the soil, and becomes specially active in certain years. It always affects the North Ward worst; thus last year there were as many cases in the North Ward as in the rest of the Wards together. . . . The cause undoubtedly lies in a germ, which appears to be related to the sandy soil of the lower part of the town, rather than to the clay ground, if the germ be in the ground, according to our surmise. . . . If it be a matter of soil, the only remedy would appear to be in home cleanliness, paving of backyards, watering of streets in dry weather, and these might be partly preventive. Greater care in feeding during the dangerous time would probably reduce the death-rate from this specific disease."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of notifications of cases of infectious disease was below the average of the past ten years: only seven cases of typhoid fever were notified. Dr. Garrett remarks that "the very low incidence of typhoid in Cheltenham seems to give a testimonial to the innocence of its water supply, although this is partly from a river source." Nearly 94 per cent. of the cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and about 50 per cent. of the cases of Diphtheria.

HOUSING.

The housing of the poor is very fully discussed by Dr. Garrett, who appreciates the difficulty of dealing effectively with the problem

piecemeal, though it is evident that considerable improvement is being gradually effected by the efforts of himself and the Sanitary Inspectors. Twelve houses were closed as unfit for habitation, and 2,533 improvements were made in 1,462 premises. Dr. Garrett considers that the standard of new building adopted ought to be maintained, and that “a set of good Bye-Laws for the regulation of existing houses would be of great advantage.”

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Dealing with the question of sewage disposal, Dr. Garrett says :—
“As the result of their inquiries into the new mode of sewage treatment, and being somewhat urged by the importunate demands of persons living near the sewage farms, by the Rural District Council, the County Council, and ultimately the Local Government Board, the Cheltenham Corporation has instructed the Borough Surveyor to report upon the best system of bacterial treatment of sewage for adoption here, and I believe his Report is in course of preparation, and likely to be presented within a reasonable time.”

The problem of the “Privately-owned Sewers,” to which Dr. Garrett has drawn attention in seven successive Annual Reports, is still unsolved. These sewers were examined by the Borough Surveyor three or four years ago, and, from his observation then and fresh evidence, are in a “very bad state of repair, so far as a chief part of them are concerned . . . and he clearly showed the need of an extensive re-sewering of the district, and even estimated the cost.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Slaughter-houses, dairies, common lodging-houses and other places over which Local Sanitary Authorities have control, have been inspected as usual, and, from the Chief Inspector's Report, have had many improvements effected in them. It is, however, somewhat unsatisfactory to learn that, while three licensed slaughter-houses

have been closed, less use has been made of the public abattoir. The number of Corporation certificates for houses in a satisfactory sanitary condition granted during 1904 was 37, making a total, since the commencement of the work, of 569.

METEOROLOGY.

In the Report of the Borough Meteorologist (Mr. A. C. Saxby) it is stated that "a remarkable feature of the year has been the "amount of brilliant sunshine registered," and that "the total "rainfall (27·08 inches) was five inches under the average for the "past 26 years."

Area 5,286 Acres.	Population 1891	..	7,521
	1901	..	7,536
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	15 (.2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	7,565
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

This is Dr. Bond's thirty-second Annual Report on the Gloucestershire Combined Sanitary District, including the Cirencester Urban District.

HOUSING.

Dr. Bond, referring to the Report of the Sanitary Inspector, says "The items under the head of house accommodation indicated slow but steady improvement in the structural condition of the town. The older and less sanitary parts of it are gradually giving place to more commodious and healthy houses, without much (if any) sacrifice of the picturesqueness which characterises Cirencester."

SEWERAGE.

A temporary blockage of one of the sewers led to some evidence of pollution of wells in the neighbourhood. Complaints of nuisance from the sewage farm at South Cerney "appeared to be due to temporary and accidental causes, and not of a very serious nature." In his Report to the Cirencester Rural District Council, Dr. Bond says the farm "is generally conducted as satisfactorily as is possible under the circumstances."

WATER SUPPLY.

"The subject which has received most consideration is that of the enlargement of the appliances for distributing the excellent water

“supply with which the town is provided. To effect this will involve
“considerable outlay, but it is unavoidable, and the Council are
“taking steps to meet it.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Dr. Bond says that “the unsatisfactory condition of the Joint
“Isolation Hospital is one which may affect very gravely
“the welfare of the town, if, by any unforeseen misfortune, a serious
“outbreak of infectious disease—especially of small-pox—should
“occur in it.” He refers to his fuller remarks on this matter in his
Report on the Rural District, and says “it is one which should not be
“lost sight of as claiming consideration, as other and more urgent
“calls can be cleared off.”

Dr. Bond has drawn attention to the inadequacy of the provision
for the isolation of cases of infectious disease in each Annual Report
for many years.

Remarking on the fact that “there has been no death recorded
“from any form of filth fever, and also from diarrhœa in any shape,”
Dr. Bond says: “This freedom from diseases which are so largely
“the result of contamination of the soil, and of its effects in polluting
“both water and air, may be, in a large degree, attributed to the
“excellent water supply and good drainage which the town of
“Cirencester enjoys, and should offer a valuable compensation for
“the increase in the rates which has been necessary to obtain these
“results.”

Area 2,067 Acres.	Population 1891	..	2,450
	1901	..	2,541
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	91 (3·7 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	2,560
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. P. Buchanan, M.B.

Owing to Dr. Buchanan's resignation in March of this year, this is his last Report for this District. He has been succeeded as Medical Officer of Health by J. R. Payne, Esq., L.R.C.P.Edin., M.R.C.S.Eng.

GENERAL FEATURES OF DISTRICT.

The general characters of the District are described, and the population is estimated to be the same as in 1903 : 2,560.

STATISTICS.

The birth-rate has fallen from 31·1 in 1902 to 26 in 1903, and 25·7 in 1904. The death-rate in 1904 (11·7) is below the average of the previous ten years (14·7).

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was a slight increase in the number of notifications of cases of infectious disease—from 15 in 1903 to 19 in 1904 ; 15 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 of Diphtheria, 1 of Erysipelas and 1 of Typhoid Fever. The case of Typhoid Fever was imported from Worcestershire.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Dr. Buchanan remarks : “ The District is still without an Isolation Hospital, to which first cases of infection could be sent ; and it is “ therefore frequently exceedingly difficult to avert an epidemic. “ The usual methods of isolation and the use of disinfectants, both “ during and after the illness, can be only partially carried out in “ private houses of limited size ; and this being so, it generally “ happens that once infection is introduced into a large family they “ one by one succumb to it.”

SCHOOLS.

One School was closed for 14 days on account of Scarlet Fever.

HOUSING.

Dr. Buchanan has again occasion to repeat his remarks on the bad condition of many of the houses of the poorer working classes—old, built into embankments, no through ventilation, damp and unhealthy. On an attempt being made to get improvements made in two cases, “in the one nothing was done, and in the other the “owner promptly gave the tenant notice to quit, leaving the house “void. . . . House accommodation, however, is scarce.” One house was condemned, and six houses (the plans for which were submitted to the Council) were built during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

There appears to have been some scarcity of water during the year; the present public supply is obtained from a spring, and is stored in an underground reservoir. As reported last year, boring for a new supply in the old red sandstone at Birchamp Wood to a depth of 300 feet failed to discover sufficient water, and on the advice of Mr. Donald M. D. Stuart, F.G.S., operations were stopped.

SEWERAGE.

Dr. Buchanan is not able to report any progress in the matter of improving the sewerage of the town, to which the attention of the Council was drawn by Dr. W. E. Fletcher (Medical Inspector of the Local Government Board) in 1899, and by the Medical Officer of Health in each of his Annual Reports. This matter is becoming more and more important, for, Dr. Buchanan states, “as the number “of water-closets is increasing, this insanitary state of things is “thereby aggravated.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Slaughter-houses, dairies, bakehouses, and other places over which the Sanitary Authority has control, are systematically inspected.

Area 832 Acres.	Population 1891	..	645
	1901	..	1,435
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	790 (122·5 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	2,085
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. A. W. Peake, M.R.C.S.

This District was absorbed by Bristol on the 1st October, 1904, under the Bristol Corporation Act, 1904. Mr. Peake presents the statistics for the District for the first nine months of the year.

Five cases of infectious disease were notified up to the 30th September: two of scarlet fever, two of diphtheria and one of erysipelas. Both cases of diphtheria were fatal, one after returning home (63 days after notification) from one of the Bristol hospitals "from syncope due presumably to some neuritis of the vagus nerve."

Area 1,525 Acres.	Population 1891	..	9,114
	1901	..	11,961
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	2,847 (31·2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	12,561

Medical Officer of Health .. C. J. Perrott, L.R.C.P., I.

Mr. Perrott reports that “the health of the District during the “year has been very satisfatcory. There was no epidemic of diph- “theria and scarlet fever and we have not had the usual “autumnal diarrhœa, which has for years been prevalent until last “year and the year before.”

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewerage and sewage disposal works for Kingswood proper, which were commenced in 1902, were completed in 1904, and 352 connections have been made with the sewers. The sewage disposal works consist of two detritus tanks, one septic tank of 300,000 gallons capacity, and four clinker beds on which the tank effluent is distributed in Stoddarts' channels. The effluent flows into the River Avon. For the Warmley section dealing with the remainder of Kingswood, Hopewell Hill, New Cheltenham, and Warmley Hill, application has been made to the Local Government Board for their sanction to borrow £17,500, but the result of the application had not been received at the time this Report was written. The land for the disposal works was acquired under compulsory powers.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the last quarter of the year the water “supplied by the “West Gloucestershire Water Company was at times inadequate,” and Mr. Perrott made a Special Report on the matter to the Council in December. “At intervals during the past three months the “supply has been cut off totally from many parts of the district for “hours in a day. The majority of our wells having been closed,

“the inconvenience and danger to the public health have been great.” Inquiry of the Company elicited the information that “owing to the “unusually dry season the water had reached a low level, and the “pumps had to be lowered; and while these alterations were being “made it was impossible to maintain a constant supply.” It is stated that the work is now completed, and that there will be no recurrence of the inconvenience. Mr. Perrott has examined the water, and finds it “free from organic impurity, (though) at times “it has been slightly discoloured and of rather a brackish taste.” He suggested that, as this condition appears to be confined to certain portions of the district, it might be remedied by more frequent flushing of the dead ends.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The prevalence of scarlet fever and diphtheria has been considerably less than of late years. An interesting account of an outbreak of small-pox (five cases) is given, together with the measures taken to cope with it. The primary case (a man) was infected in a Bristol lodging-house, and the four remaining cases arose from association with him. A striking fact is that one of these was the nurse. A woman, who was chosen for the work partly because she had already had small-pox and was badly marked from its effects, was herself one of the five cases. Until the iron hospital of six beds (one of Humphreys') was erected at the temporary sewage works, the infected houses were kept under close supervision, and all other measures possible (including re-vaccination of contacts) were taken to revent any spread of the disease.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

An iron and wood hospital was erected in June, 1904, on a field in Tennis Court Road, Fisher Lane, owned by the Council, to accommodate the above cases of small-pox, this contains one ward of six beds, two partitioned off, matron's room, kitchen, bath-room, scullery, store-room and earth-closets.

“As to providing a general isolation hospital, nothing has been done further than one meeting held to discuss the matter. There is still a probability of having a joint hospital with the Warmley Rural District.”

STATISTICS.

Mr. Perrott records favourable statistics for the year, except that the birth-rate (25·5) is the lowest on record. The latter is, however, the highest in the urban districts in the county.

Area 1,597 Acres.	Population 1891	..	2,993
	1901	..	3,028
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	35 (1·2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	3,039
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. J. Middleton Martin, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

“The period under review has not been marked by any special “feature, but progress has been made in improving the sanitary “condition of the District.”

HOUSING.

“A few houses in the lowest parts of the Valley are liable at times “to flooding of the cellars, rendering the houses very damp,” dependent, apparently, on the level of the water in the mill tail. Four new houses were built.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

A site for the sewage disposal works has been provisionally acquired at Dunkirk—7½ acres for £2,100—and in April the Council unanimously resolved to apply to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £15,000 for the purpose of carrying out the complete scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal works prepared by G. P. Milnes, Esq. Delay has been caused owing to the proposed extension of the effluent carrier outside the boundaries of the District and the notice which has to be given of works outside the District. Reference is again made to the danger of soil and water pollution from privy vaults.

DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

Three times as much refuse is now collected compared with seven years ago. The Council propose arranging for the “tip” to which the contractor will convey the refuse.

WATER SUPPLY.

“Owing to the moderate rainfall during 1904, the local springs “did not yield so abundantly as in 1903, and the Walkley Wood “Spring dried up completely.” The Stroud Water Company will extend their mains to this part of the district in the Spring of 1905. There are now 288 connections (36·1 per cent. of the total houses) with the Company’s mains.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

The adoption of Regulations with respect to dairies, cowsheds, etc., is again advised, and it is stated that Bye-Laws similar to those in the surrounding Rural District will be adopted.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A summary of the notifications in the district since 1890 is given, the chief features of which are a severe epidemic of diphtheria in 1900-1 and the small numbers of cases of typhoid fever. Cases of diphtheria have occurred every year since 1899. Several of those in 1904 “were very mild cases, and were detected only by bacterio-“logical examination. This is a good instance of the value of this “method of detecting otherwise unrecognised cases, and shows how “useful these examinations are in preventing the spread of diph-“theria by such cases.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Joint Isolation Hospital was opened in December, 1904.

STATISTICS.

The birth-rate (21·1) was slightly lower than the average (22·0). The death-rate (15·1) was almost the same as the average (15·2). Attention is called to the fact that caution is necessary in drawing general conclusions from rates calculated on small figures.

NEWNHAM URBAN DISTRICT.

Area 1,937 Acres.	Population 1891	..	1,401
	1901	..	1,184
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	217 (15·5 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,118
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

HOUSING.

“One new house added to the town in the year does not indicate much enterprise in the way of building, and the excellent building sites in its outskirts are still waiting for appropriation.”

SEWERAGE.

The sewerage scheme was completed in May, 1904. The outfall is of 12-inch cast-iron pipes, carried 30 yards from the bank with a tide-flap. On Dr. Bond's suggestion, “the Council decided to provide additional ventilation for the main sewer.” No further complaint of smells has been made. “The gradients and facilities for ventilation and flushing when necessary are all good.”

WATER SUPPLY.

“The water mains of the town, which belong to a private proprietary, continue to work satisfactorily.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Dr. Bond has “inspected the slaughter-houses, bakehouses and milk-sellers' premises, and found them generally satisfactory.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Four cases of diphtheria occurred, with one death.

STATISTICS.

Dr. Bond records a “phenomenally low birth-rate” (16·1), and remarks that this is the eighteenth year in which there “has been “a continued preponderance of male births, following a previous “period—of at least twelve years—of a preponderance of female “births.”

Area 45 Acres.	Population 1891	..	1,525
	1901	..	1,386
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	139 (9·1 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,386
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. E. Denning, M.R.C.S.

This is the smallest district in the County, but two other urban districts have a less population. Mr. Denning presents his twentieth Annual Report.

HOUSING AND REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

During the year he has made a house to house inspection of the cottages and smaller houses, in the company of the Sanitary Inspector. He discovered no cases of overcrowding "that could be dealt with "as such," but in several instances the privy accommodation was found to be deficient and drains defective; with few exceptions, these were all remedied. Many heaps of refuse "are allowed to "remain much longer than they ought in the small yards and alleys, "of which we have so many in the district. . . . There are so "many cottages, and even larger houses, where they have not a bit "of ground on which to put a small heap of dust or refuse." Mr. Denning, in the Report which he made to the Council on this inspection, again recommended a system of public scavenging. "This was "the suggestion of the majority of the Committee (which considered "the Report), but on the matter being brought before the Council "it was thrown out." No mention is made this year of the discharge of house drains into "swilleys or fissures in the rock," and no steps appear to have been taken to stop this dangerous custom.

WATER SUPPLY.

"The public water supply still continues good, and this year "samples have been frequently analysed, and have always been "found very good."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Seven cases of infectious disease were notified during the year : two of scarlet fever and five of typhoid fever. Mr. Denning says : “ In 1902 we had, for the first time for many years, a case of enteric “ fever in our district, which was clearly imported. This was “ followed in 1903 by four cases, and in 1904 by four (? five) more. “ Undoubtedly our water supply is not at fault : were it so, a large “ and general epidemic would result ; and, again, from frequent tests “ the water proves to be exceptionally good.” On the other hand, Mr. Denning appears to attribute the continued presence of the disease in the district to the heaps of decomposing organic matter which are allowed to accumulate, and states “ until some system of “ scavenging is introduced that will guarantee the removal of such “ refuse from the district, I feel we cannot but anticipate that more “ cases will occur.” He is further of opinion that public scavenging is the chief sanitary requirement of the district at the present time.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The District is still without an Isolation Hospital. Mr. Denning “ much regrets the Rural Council did not see their way to combine “ with the Urban in the formation of a joint hospital, which would “ amply provide for all the requirements of both districts, and in “ which you as a Council were willing to co-operate.”

STATISTICS.

The births and deaths were equal in number, the rate being 18·0 per 1,000. This is the highest death-rate in the County for 1904. The numbers, however, are so small, it is not possible to draw any useful conclusions from these rates ; but the average death-rate for the previous ten years is also high.

STROUD URBAN DISTRICT.

Area 1,169 Acres.	Population 1891	..	9,818
	1901	..	9,153
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	665 (6·8 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	8,954
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. J. Middleton Martin, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

The chart of comparative rates is continued this year, though not printed with the Report. The extract from the Memorandum of Instructions of the Local Government Board stating the desirability of printing these Annual Reports is quoted in the introduction.

HOUSING.

The re-modelling of the 16 dilapidated cottages referred to last year has begun, and five are now inhabited. Five new houses have been built, and five houses condemned. Opportunity has been taken to effect an improvement by setting back four of the latter by the Council paying £200.

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL. REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE. RIVERS
POLLUTION.**

There has been no change in the method of sewage disposal. Attention is again drawn to the importance of proper covered receptacles for house refuse. Attempts have been made to enforce the clearing of the bed of the Slad Brook, the blocking of which has occasionally been the cause of flooding.

WATER SUPPLY.

Owing to the lower rainfall the upper springs did not yield so abundantly as in 1903, and the shortness in the upper water supply was temporarily met by pumping from Gainey's Well to the covered reservoir *via* Bird's Clock Reservoir. Arrangements are now being

made for permanent pumping direct to the covered reservoir. The County Analyst has again reported favourably as to the quality of the town water.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

One new common lodging-house (for 22 persons) has been erected. Attention is called to the need of suitable flooring, which can be easily cleansed, and of non-absorbent receptacles for refuse in slaughter-houses. Regulations with respect to dairies, etc., are again advised. Two bakehouses, technically underground, were approved, after minor alterations and certificates for their use have been granted. There have been no direct complaints of nuisance from the chemical manure works this year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Compared with 1903 there was a slight increase in the number of notifications of cases of infectious disease, chiefly due to a small school outbreak of scarlet fever outside the district. The number of cases (11) of this disease would probably have been larger but for the search for mild, unrecognised cases. There were also three cases of typhoid fever, and one of diphtheria. The average annual attack rates (1892-1904) for the two constituent parishes are given for the chief notifiable diseases, from which it appears that Uplands has suffered less than Stroud.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The temporary Isolation Hospital was closed in November, 1904. During the $4\frac{1}{4}$ years it was open 123 cases of scarlet fever and two cases of typhoid fever were treated in it. 77 per cent. of the total number of cases of scarlet fever were removed to hospital. “ This “ percentage would have been higher but for the fact that the hospital “ was opened during a period of epidemic, and the accommodation “ was for a time insufficient. The eagerness with which parents “ availed themselves of the advantages of the temporary hospital

“ throughout the whole time it was open augurs well for the use that “ will be made of the permanent building at Cainscross,” *i.e.*, of the Joint Isolation Hospital for this, the surrounding Rural and the Nailsworth Urban Districts.

STATISTICS.

Attention is called to the difficulty in obtaining an accurate estimate of the population the further we advance from the Census year, and in correcting the estimate from the number of *inhabited* houses, as in some parishes this number is unobtainable owing to the system of compounding rates. The death-rate from tubercular diseases continues high. Disinfection of houses is offered where deaths from this disease occur. “ Uncertified deaths (1·9 per cent.) “ show a distinct tendency to form a smaller proportion of the total “ than twenty years ago, when the percentage was as high as 5·1 and “ 5·4 in two years.”

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. W. Parsons), which is printed with the above, gives the summary of the work done during the year. In the majority of cases nuisances have been abated on notice from the Inspector, and in only 6 instances were statutory notices served, and no prosecutions were necessary.

Area 114 Acres.	Population 1891	..	2,173
	1901	..	1,989
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	184 (8·5 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,934
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

HOUSING.

Speaking of the conditions which favour the development of consumption, Dr. Bond remarks: “When one visits some of the “wretched, old-fashioned and ill-ventilated houses which are but too “numerous in Tetbury, one cannot but feel that they are hot-beds “of the tubercle bacillus, and wish . . . that they could be “replaced by more healthy dwellings.”

SEWERAGE, ETC.

There is “constant liability to trouble at the outfall of the system “of sewerage, arising from the undue amount of sewage to be dealt “with there, in consequence partly of leakage of subsoil water into “the old and defective sewers at the lower part of the town, and “partly from the existence of two breweries in the town.” The expenditure by the Council on the “treatment of sewage” during 1904 (£147 19s. 4d.) appears somewhat high in the light of present knowledge. The cost of maintenance of bacterial sewage works is so very small that the decrease in the annual expenditure should go far towards the repayment of a loan for more modern works.

WATER SUPPLY.

“The water supply of the town—about which there has been at “times some cause for anxiety, in view of a possible breakdown at “the pumping station—has on the whole worked satisfactorily during “the year.” Eleven new connections with the mains were made during 1904.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“ The last source of possible trouble is the want of any means for
“ isolating serious cases of infectious disease, and especially small-pox.
“ An infected tramp may any day bring it into the town.
“ In such a case the difficulty of dealing with it might be very great,
“ and the only resource would be wholesale re-vaccination.”

Dr. Bond, referring to the decision to re-build the Workhouse instead of dissolving the Union, and to the delay in the new Sanitary Inspector commencing his duties, remarks : “ The past year has
“ been one of exceptional character in this district, involving inter-
“ ruption of work and suspension of regular systematic activity. It
“ may be expected that now the disturbing causes are removed,
“ the regular work will go on with increased diligence. The resources
“ of Tetbury for meeting emergencies that may occur any day are
“ in no case excessive, and it is only by constant and efficient effort
“ to remove all local conditions that may embarrass action in meeting
“ them when they arrive that grave catastrophe can be averted.”

Area 2,532 Acres.	Population 1891	..	5,269
	1901	..	5,419
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	150 (2·8 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	5,420
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. A. Fowell-Turner, L.R.C.P., Ed., J.P.

Mr. Turner presents his seventh Annual Report.

HOUSING.

Four cases of overcrowding were abated. The alleys were white-washed and flushed weekly.

SEWERAGE, ETC.

The question of the provision of flushing tanks for all water-closets is under consideration.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town water has been examined by the County Analyst and by Mr. Turner, and "has been found to be a good potable water."

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

One new lodging-house was approved, after alterations had been made. A new bakehouse has replaced an underground bakehouse. One bakehouse, "in an insanitary condition, has been permanently "closed."

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Thirty-four of the 39 cases of scarlet fever were treated in the Borough Hospital. Mr. Turner urges the necessity of providing accommodation for small-pox, especially "taking into consideration "the large number of unvaccinated children in the Borough "a lamentable state of affairs."

The carrying out of the provisions of the Midwives' Act "certainly very strongly points out the necessity for the acquirement "of some efficient apparatus for disinfecting purposes." Mr. Turner has drawn attention to the need of a disinfecter in each of his five last Reports.

Area 8,264 Acres.	Population 1891	..	2,005
	1901	..	1,866
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	139 (6·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,824
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Dr. Bond remarks that “the sanitary history for the year has “been totally devoid of incidents of any kind.”

HOUSING.

Plans approved under Bye-Laws were three. Two houses were repaired on notice, and one was demolished.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Four cases were notified : three of diphtheria and one (fatal) of puerperal fever. Dr. Bond remarks that in two of the cases of diphtheria “the diagnosis was not confirmed bacteriologically, “and the attacks were not severe.”

Area 18,803 Acres. Population 1891	..	12,135
	1901	.. 14,646
		<hr/>
Increase 1891-1901	..	2,511 (20·7 per cent.)
		<hr/>
Estimated population 1904	..	15,060
		<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. E. Crossman, M.D.

This district was broken up on the 1st October, 1904, in consequence of the Bristol Corporation Act, 1904, by which an area of 4,515 acres, with a population of 8,241 persons, was absorbed by Bristol. An area of 7,836 acres, with a population of 1,922, was transferred to the Thornbury Rural District; and an area of 6,452 acres, with a population of 4,483, to the Chipping Sodbury Rural District. (The populations given are those at the time of the Census 1901.) But, about a month before these changes were made, Dr. Crossman, who had been Medical Officer of Health for the District for many years, died, and was succeeded by his son, Dr. Frank Crossman, until the new arrangements had been made.

No Annual Report has been made for the three quarters of the year that this district was still existing, but Dr. Frank Crossman has sent the Local Government Board Tables, and the following information has been obtained from the Reports made by the late Dr. Edward Crossman for the first two quarters of the year.

HOUSING, ETC.

“ No complaint has come to my knowledge of any serious nuisance
“ or overcrowding in the dwellings of the working classes.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following interesting and instructive account of an outbreak of small-pox is given in Dr. Crossman's Report for the second quarter of the year :—

“ The outbreak of small-pox was dependent upon our
“ proximity to Bristol. On May 17th I received a letter
“ from Dr. Davies (Medical Officer of Health of Bristol),
“ saying that a family had left Bristol for Shirehampton,
“ who had lately come from the neighbourhood of Cheltenham,
“ where small-pox was prevalent. They had with them
“ a child suffering from an eruptive disease, which had
“ apparently been mistaken for chicken-pox, but was clearly
“ small-pox, as during the family’s stay in Bristol they had
“ infected three persons with small-pox.

“ I immediately paid a visit to Shirehampton, in company
“ with Dr. Rolfe (Sir John Aird’s doctor), and examined the
“ family, named Baker, and also another family named
“ Clarke, who had been in contact with the Bakers. But
“ before my visit, which was made a few hours after receipt
“ of the information, one boy of the Baker family had presented
“ himself at Sir John Aird’s Hospital with a small-pox
“ rash on him, and Dr. Davies had immediately sent him
“ to the Bristol Isolation Ship. I found several other
“ members of this family complaining of ill-health, but
“ nothing then distinctive of small-pox. On the following
“ day, however, the disease declared itself, and Dr. Rolfe
“ sent the notifications of five members of the Baker family
“ and two Clarkes. The day following one more Baker,
“ and ten days later a baby named Smith, living in the same
“ house with the Clarkes. Your Isolation Hospital at
“ Southmead was as quickly as possible emptied and prepared,
“ and the nine cases received for treatment. All those did
“ well, except the baby Smith, aged three months, who had
“ been vaccinated as soon as the danger became known,
“ but not before it had taken the infection, the disease and
“ the vaccination running their course at the same time, and
“ ending in death.”

Area 23,726 Acres.	Population 1891	..	6,060
	1901	..	5,441
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	619 (10·2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	5,438
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. G. Findlay, M.A., M.B.

Dr. Findlay gives a description of the District, including its divisions and sub-divisions. “Geographically the district is divided “into practically two portions by the Worcestershire Parish of “Blockley.” For registration purposes this district is in the Shipston-on-Stour (Warwickshire) Poor Law Union. Details as to sewerage and water supply are given for each Parish, and the following notes are made :—

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

CAMPDEN.—Sewers blocked in one or two places, opened and cleaned : pool cleaned out and now satisfactory.

EBRINGTON.—Sewers acted without trouble.

QUINTON.—Main culvert should be extended.

MICKLETON.—Sewers satisfactory.

MORETON-IN-MARSH.—Messrs. Willcox and Raikes prepared plans, which were approved by the Council, and are now before the Local Government Board. Existing sewers have been cleaned, and the cages of aluminoferric have been attended to as required by the Thames Conservators.

TODENHAM.—Further length of sewer ditch should be enclosed.

WATER SUPPLY.

ADMINTON.—Reservoir cleaned, taps repaired, and old common pipes replaced by 130 yards of cast-iron pipes.

BOURTON-ON-THE-HILL.—Not satisfactory. Former supply proposed for Moreton-in-Marsh (Bourton Wood) now abandoned, and new proposed supply would be no use for Bourton. The question has been discussed by the Parish Council, and should be taken up by the District Council.

CHIPPING CAMPDEN.—The scheme for a supply from Westing has been sanctioned by the Local Government Board, and the contractors were to finish the work in March, 1905.

BROAD CAMPDEN.—Several blockages in mains and scarcity of water. Dividing tank interfered with, now closed and locked.

EBRINGTON.—Satisfactory.

HIDCOTE.—Satisfactory. Estate agent has taken a supply for a distant farm, but has given the Council a guarantee against any expense if this should cause a scarcity.

QUINTON.—Satisfactory in Upper Quinton; discoloured in Lower Quinton. Owners (Magdalen College, Oxford) are having the supply put in order.

MICKLETON.—Satisfactory.

MORETON-IN-MARSH.—Messrs. Willcox and Raikes have prepared a scheme for bringing water from Upper Swell, which has been approved by the District Council, and is now before the Local Government Board.

TODENHAM.—Wells appear to have acted satisfactorily.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Workshops, bakehouses, dairies and other places over which the District Council has supervision have been inspected. Bakehouses are not always whitewashed every six months, in accordance with the Factory and Workshop Act.

BYE-LAWS.

“ Nothing has yet been done with regard to the proposed Bye-Laws.” Urban Powers were conferred on the Rural District Council in 1903 for the purpose of adopting Bye-Laws with respect to nuisances and the cleansing of footways in Chipping Campden and Moreton-in-Marsh, and with respect to slaughter-houses in Chipping Campden, Mickleton, Moreton-in-Marsh and Quinton.

SCHOOLS.

Dr. Findlay notes that “ the use of slates has now been practically “ given up in the various schools in the district.” One school (Mickleton) was closed on account of measles from December 12th to the Christmas Holidays.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Fifteen of the seventeen cases of scarlet fever notified occurred at Campden, and “ were the remainder of the epidemic at Campden,” mentioned in last year’s Report. The disease was of a comparatively mild type. Two cases of typhoid fever were introduced into the District. Chicken-pox ceased to be a notifiable disease after the 15th April, 1904.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“ Nothing has yet been done in the matter of providing a permanent Isolation Hospital for the District during the year. The “ outbreak of scarlet fever at Campden certainly gradually dis- “ appeared with such isolation of cases as could be carried out at home, “ but I think that had there been a hospital into which the earlier “ cases could have been removed, there would not have been nearly “ so many cases as there has been. I still think that the best way “ to provide hospital accommodation for this district would be for “ the Council to, if possible, come to some arrangement with neigh- “ bouring Councils by which cases could be removed to their hospitals, “ if required. It is so much more economical to nurse a number of

“cases together than to keep up an establishment for only a few
“cases.” As noted last year, the County Sanitary Committee in
1896 suggested the establishment of a joint Isolation Hospital at
Moreton-in-Marsh for the use of this and the Urban and Rural
Districts of Stow-on-the-Wold.

Area 18,401 Acres.	Population 1891	..	4,670
	1901	..	4,637
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	33 (.7 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	4,655
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. J. F. Johns, M.D., D.P.H.

HOUSING.

Dr. Johns remarks: "The vexed question of insanitary cottage property is no nearer solution, but the type of dwelling is steadily improving. Such building as is being done in the District is distinctly of more sanitary type."

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Details are given of the respective Parishes with respect to sewerage:—

BADGEWORTH.—Existing method, cesspits, very few cemented.

LECKHAMPTON.—Sewered in parts to town mains; else, cesspits.

PRESTBURY (three portions).—(1) Drained to town sewers; (2) Larger portion, drained to sewage farm in centre of Parish; (3) Remainder, not connected with either system. Scheme for dealing with whole of Parish now before District Council. (The scheme proposed in October, 1903, included one outfall, with sewage disposal works at Wyman's Brook of tanks to hold $1\frac{1}{2}$ days' dry-weather flow, three bacterial filters, and storm-water filters. The estimated cost was £2,500.) "Of the desirability of the proper sewerage for the Parish there can be no question."

SHURDINGTON.—Under the management of the Council the sewage farm is more satisfactory, since the excess of water finding its way to the sewer has been checked.

STAVERTON.—One of the Parishes receiving the town sewage. Cases of sickness of a septic type are most prevalent.

UCKINGTON.—Nuisances from the sewage fields are frequently reported.

WATER SUPPLY.

The following notes are made with regard to the water supply. "Water analyses have been undertaken where necessary, and reports "furnished to the Council," and, with respect to the following Parishes :—

BADGEWORTH.—The water supply is mostly from surface wells. At Badgeworth is a supply under the control of the Council, and at the Reddings some of the inhabitants avail themselves of the supply from the urban mains.

COWLEY.—The water supply in the Birdlip area has been good and sufficient.

LECKHAMPTON.—Partly from town mains and partly from shallow wells.

SWINDON.—The water supply under the control of the Council has been satisfactory.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Dairies "have not, in regard to the importance of proper supervision of the sources of milk supply, received the attention that they should. But little can be done unless registration is insisted on, and model regulations are sanctioned and efficiently carried out." A "gut factory" at Staverton is kept under supervision.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

“Much is to be hoped from the requirements of the Model Bye-Laws that have been adopted: Bye-Laws, that whilst in no way restrictive, yet do not allow of buildings totally unfit for human habitation being built as hitherto.” Their working “has, so far, been satisfactory.” Dr. Johns advises the adoption of Regulations with respect to dairies, etc.

SCHOOLS.

“The schools have been visited, and, where necessary, sanitary conditions requiring attention have been brought to the notice of the Council.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles is no longer a notifiable disease in this district. Thirty-five cases of scarlet fever were notified, of which number 34 were removed to hospital. Dr. Johns says: “In no case was the affection apparently spread through the schools, but in two or three instances the schools were closed, and the premises disinfected as a precautionary measure.” Of the 11 cases of diphtheria, four were removed to hospital. There were three isolated cases of typhoid fever, all of which were treated at home.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Speaking of the isolation hospital, Dr. Johns refers to the advisability of preventing any clothes worn in hospital being sent home with the patient, and of further isolation of convalescents from scarlet fever in some less infected area than a fever hospital. The general practice in hospitals now is to remove patients from the acute wards, after thorough disinfection, as if for discharge, to convalescent wards.

Dr. Johns considers the arrangement with the Urban Authorities for the disinfection of bedding, etc., is “satisfactory, provided no such

“press of work should arise as to cause irksome delay.” As regards disinfection of cottages, Dr. Johns advises thorough cleaning and whitewashing after disinfection.

STATISTICS.

Dr. Johns give interesting statistics as to the density of population in the various Parishes. The calculated birth-rate is the lowest in any of the Rural Districts, and the death-rate the lowest in any district in the County.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

“Owing to the serious illness of Mr. Weaver, the Inspector of Nuisances, the routine work has been somewhat diminished.”

Area 63,284 Acres. Population 1891	..	16,795
1901	..	17,621
		<hr/>
Increase 1891-1901	..	826 (4·9 per cent.)
		<hr/>
Estimated population 1904	..	16,500
		<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

On the 1st October, 1904, at the dissolution of the Barton Regis Union, the Parishes of Filton, Stoke Gifford and Winterbourne, with an area of 6,452 acres, a population of 4,483, and a rateable value of £21,718, were added to this District ; but (says Dr. Bond) “ as this “ added portion did not come under my supervision until the middle “ of November last, and as I received no records of any kind for the “ previous portion of the year, I have not dealt in any way with “ these added Parishes in this Report.”

HOUSING

“ The only part of the District in which there has been any “ appreciable amount of building during the year is on the road from “ Yate Station to Chipping Sodbury, which promises in time to “ become a favourite residential quarter. . . . It will prob- “ ably be found that there is more activity in this direction in the “ newly added portion of the district than in the older area.” Dr. Bond adds that “ some of the recently erected houses (in Filton) “ indicate that the jerry-builder is as well-known there as he is in “ other places.” He also refers to the fact that as the Bye-Laws for New Buildings adopted by the late Barton Regis District Council became inoperative on the dissolution, the Chipping Sodbury District Council have taken steps “ to adopt a special code for these Parishes but I am not aware of what has been exactly done, as “ the Committee have not thought it necessary to ask for my assistance “ in dealing with it.”

SEWERAGE.

In his last three Reports Dr. Bond has drawn attention to the increase in the number of new houses, the drains of which are connected with the highway drain on the Yate Station road, and, while stating that “there is no evidence of any serious nuisance at the “outfall of this drain, which has been converted into a sewer by its “connection with these houses, it can hardly fail to arise sooner or “later.

“The much more serious nuisance in the Wickwar Brook, which “has now existed for more than thirty years, has been advanced “another stage towards what is to be hoped will be its permanent “abatement.” Colonel Durnford, Inspector of the Local Government Board, held a local inquiry into an application by the District Council to borrow £1,397 for the purpose of carrying out a scheme for the extension of the existing works prepared by Mr. W. Naylor. This application has since been sanctioned.

WATER SUPPLY.

Dr. Bond draws attention to the possibility of serious contamination of the principal public well in Chipping Sodbury Town owing to the proximity of the main sewer, which has occasionally become blocked. A deep well with pump was sunk for the upper part of the town some years ago, but Dr. Bond says “the arrangement is not a “convenient one for general use,” and adds, “it is satisfactory to “learn there is a growing demand for the water of the West Gloucester- “shire Company in the town.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Scarlet fever appears to have assumed in some cases a very virulent type, “three children out of six cases in one family dying “from it. Three of these children were removed to the Isolation “Hospital, where one of them died; the other three, together with “their mother, were not removed, as there was no accommodation “for them at the hospital, which at that time had only two available “beds. They had, therefore, to be treated at home, where two of

“ them died. The infection also spread to two neighbouring families,
“ but, fortunately, without fatal result. The incident illustrates the
“ comparative uselessness of an isolation hospital which has only
“ such limited accommodation as that on Sodbury Common. . . .
“ The Council have, by the addition to the hospital building which
“ they have recently made, provided an amount of accommodation
“ which would have been sufficient to treat such an outbreak as this
“ if the rooms had been properly furnished, and if steps, which I have
“ advised, had been taken to provide other requirements which are
“ quite as necessary as furniture is. It is much to be regretted that
“ the Council, having spent the money that they have done on the
“ hospital, should now hesitate to justify this expenditure by making
“ the place as efficient as is compatible with its radical defects of
“ construction.”

CIRENCESTER RURAL DISTRICT.

Area 80,991 Acres.	Population 1891	..	12,877
	1901	..	12,084
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	793 (6·2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	11,839
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

This District comprises 36 Parishes.

HOUSING.

Plans were approved for eleven houses, and four houses have been built.

SEWERAGE.

“Improvements have been made in the sewerage both of Fairford
“and Poulton, which are calculated to lessen the chances of remote
“pollution of the Thames, upon which the Inspectors of the Thames
“Conservancy keep a watchful eye. Similar improvements have
“also been made in connection with the drainage of North Cerney,
“with the view of guarding more effectually than before against
“possible pollution of the River Churn.”

From the Sanitary Inspector's Report it appears that £61 12s. 2d. was spent on drainage and sewerage during 1904. The condition of the urban sewage farm in South Cerney Parish has been the cause of complaints during the year, but Dr. Bond says he was unable to satisfy himself “that they were of a serious character, or due to
“anything but easily removable causes.”

WATER SUPPLY.

Speaking on this matter, Dr. Bond remarks that “no work of any
“importance . . . has been carried out by the Council during
“the year, and no case of urgent need has come under consideration.” From Dr. Bond's previous reports it would appear that there has been considerable activity in the past—largely by private individuals—in providing a good supply of water for many of the Parishes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number (42) was less than last year. "The bulk of the cases (22) were of a generally mild type of scarlet fever." With regard to the 14 cases of diphtheria, "no specific cause for them could be discovered, except the general prevalence of a tendency to throat trouble amongst the children attending the schools at South Cerney, Ewen and Kemble, which became more accentuated in some cases than in others."

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

After remarking that owing to the comparatively small number of cases, and that in consequence there had been no particular strain on the accommodation at the hospital, Dr. Bond remarks that "we shall, sooner or later, have a recurrence of what—to use a word that is more familiar in French than in its English garb—may be called anginal affections, which are included under the more recognisable names of scarlet fever and diphtheria, can scarcely be doubted, and then there will be the same difficulty in meeting the demand for hospital accommodation that there was a few years ago." He has, therefore, urged upon the Joint Hospital Committee the desirability of either (1) erecting a new hospital on another site, with adequate accommodation; or (2) using the present building for administrative purposes, and providing sufficient ward accommodation in connection with it. One suggestion made by this Council was to use the small-pox cottage (of two beds) in any emergency; but as Dr. Bond points out that this would be practically useless in an epidemic of any importance, and that it "was provided expressly to meet the special emergency of an outbreak of small-pox." It would appear that the provision of adequate accommodation for the isolation of cases of infectious disease is the most pressing sanitary matter demanding the consideration of this Council, which has set an example to District Councils in dealing with the prevention of consumption by contributing towards the Winsley Sanatorium, in which Institution it also maintains a bed.

DURSLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

Area 26,786 Acres.	Population 1891	..	12,166
	1901	..	11,636
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	530 (4·4 per cent)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	11,464
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. Francis J. Joynes, M.R.C.S.

Mr. Joynes, as in former Reports, gives a very full description of the District.

HOUSING.

There are few back to back houses, but more with no through-ventilation. In general, there appears to be a sufficiency of air space about the dwellings of the working classes. There is some deficiency of house accommodation in Dursley and Cam. Eleven new houses have been inspected, and the plans for three in Dursley were examined under Bye-Laws with respect to New Buildings.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewerage of Dursley and Cam, which was commenced on the 24th September, 1903, was finished during 1904, and the outfall works were nearly completed. The total expenditure during the year was £6,533 12s. 0d. for Dursley, and £2,535 4s. 4d. for Cam. Another section of rough stone sewers in Wotton-under-Edge was replaced by pipes during 1904 out of the current rates. Mr. Joynes calls attention to the need of providing efficient ventilation for these sewers.

The general form of closet is the privy vault, which “is the most objectionable and dangerous of all.” Pail closets are in use in Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge, and are emptied weekly by the public scavenger.

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

There has been no change in the matter of public scavenging.

RIVERS POLLUTION.

Mr. Joynes again remarks that "the Cam and the Dyer's Brook "are the most polluted streams in the District."

WATER SUPPLY.

A full account of the sources of water supply is given, from which it appears there has been no change since 1902. Nineteen new connections have been made with the public supplies. "Many wells "in the district before the year was out were very low, or nearly dry," owing to the rainfall being below the average after February. Six samples of water were analysed during 1904. "In all cases the "result was satisfactory."

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Common lodging-houses (2), slaughter-houses (31) and dairies have all been inspected, and, with few exceptions, appear to have been found in a satisfactory condition. A detailed Report on the results of inspections under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, is given : 113 visits of inspection were made.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There was an increase in the number of cases of infectious disease during 1904 on the number in previous years. Of 28 cases of scarlet fever seven were removed to the Moors Isolation Hospital. Eighteen cases of diphtheria were notified, 13 in Dursley. Mr. Joynes, in a special Report (a copy of which was sent to the County Council in July, 1904), attributed this outbreak to the disturbance of polluted soil in connection with the laying of the new sewers. Free use of the means for bacteriological diagnosis appears to have been made in suspected cases of diphtheria.

SCHOOLS.

Two schools were closed on account of outbreaks of whooping cough, one on account of mumps, and one for measles.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

In December, Mr. Joynes made a special Report (a copy of which was sent to the County Council in December, 1904) on the sanitary condition of the house at the Moors, Coaley, which was taken in 1896 for small-pox, and used subsequently for other diseases, seven cases of scarlet fever being treated in it during 1904. Various sanitary defects were found, and the house drained to the stream. He recommended replacing the water-closets by pail-closets, cutting off all drains from the stream, and getting rid of slop waters by sub-irrigation of the land. He again reports that no sufficient supply of water can be found on the site at Breakheart's Hill, North Nibley, acquired in 1901 for a hospital for general infectious diseases, to justify placing the hospital there. (At a meeting of the Council in February of this year reference was made to a suggestion of establishing a joint hospital with the Thornbury Rural District. This suggestion was also made in the Annual Report of the County Sanitary Committee for 1895, Berkeley being named as the place where the joint hospital might be established.)

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. W. Webb) is presented with the above.

EAST DEAN AND UNITED PARISHES RURAL DISTRICT.

Area 28,626 Acres.	Population 1891	..	20,401
	1901	..	20,011
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	390 (1·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	19,893
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

HOUSING.

Plans for 19 new dwellings have been submitted. This “seems to indicate that the house accommodation of the district as a whole is expanding, but that must be mainly in Cinderford and its neighbourhood.”

SEWERAGE.

There have been complains of offensive emanations from the outfall works at Soudley, due apparently to the periodical removing of the sludge and the limited area of land. The area available appears to be one acre of land. The present “precipitation” works were put down in 1877 by Messrs. Gotto and Beesley. A bacterial system of treating the sewage has now been proposed.

The Cinderford mains have been extended 319 yards to Littledean Hill and Bilson Green. It was proposed to deal with a similar nuisance at Drybrook in the same way, but nothing has actually been done. Dr. Bond draws attention to the need for caution in this matter, owing to the water required for flushing drains not being available.

WATER SUPPLY.

Dr. Bond remarks : “A much more important question, not only for Cinderford, but for other parts of the township of East Dean, is that of water supply. Every season of drought accentuates with increasing force the need for further effort, not only to supply water to parts of the district—such as Drybrook and Ruardean

“ Hill, which at such times are in urgent want of it—but to maintain
“ uninterruptedly the supply to the area over which it is distributed.”
Attention has been called to inadequacy of the supply of water
to the above places on many occasions. In 1901 Dr. Bond wrote :
“ In the month of February a deputation from the residents on
“ Ruardean Hill waited on the Council to represent the pressing
“ needs of that locality, whilst the wants of Drybrook and Blakeney
“ Hill have been also brought before the Council by the representa-
“ tives of those parts of the township.” Many plans have been
proposed for meeting this need, amongst others, joint action by this
and neighbouring Councils to obtain water from a disused pit at
Shakemantle. Some correspondence on this matter passed, in 1902,
between the Councils concerned and the Crown, but apparently with
no definite result as to using this source. Dr. Bond now reports
that there are two courses before the Council : (1) to ascertain whether
further boring at the present supply at Green Bottom would produce
a more abundant yield ; and (2) “ to fall back upon the general water
“ storage of the Forest Coal Field.” With regard to the former,
“ improvements were made in 1903, mainly at the instance of the
“ Chairman, Mr. G. Rowlinson.” With regard to the latter, Dr.
Bond remarks : “ The solution of this problem seems to lie largely
“ in the hands of the Crown, to whom the Forest belongs, to whom
“ the development of all its resources should be of the first importance,
“ and to whom also the public are justified in looking for all the
“ facilities which are necessary to encourage private enterprise, as
“ well as municipal effort, in this direction.”

That a supply of water would be appreciated appears to be
supported by the facts that in 1898 the net revenue from the Cinder-
ford Waterworks was £810, and in 1904 £914.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

“ In this branch of the work of inspection the state of things
“ is much more satisfactory than it has ever been before. I have

“good reason to think that the improvement thus shown will be
“manifested in other departments during the course of the present
“year.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“This Hospital has not been so largely used during the past year
“as it might have been, in consequence of difficulties which have for
“a long time existed in arranging for the prompt removal to it of
“suitable cases.” Only eight of the 75 cases of scarlet fever were
moved, and none of the 37 cases of diphtheria. Dr. Bond adds that
the fact of the Sanitary Inspector now residing in the centre of the
district, and the purchase of a conveyance for an ambulance (£16 10s.),
have removed some of the difficulties. The lease of the site of the
hospital from the Crown has been extended for another ten years.

STATISTICS.

The birth-rate fell from 30·1 in 1903 to 25·6 in 1904, the average
for the previous ten years being 31·4. “Satisfactory features in the
“list of causes of death are to be found in the unusual absence of any
“deaths from puerperal fever, or from any form of continued fever.”

(GLOUCESTERSHIRE PARISH OF LECHLADE.)

Area 3,870 Acres.	Population 1891	..	1,266
	1901	..	1,179
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	87 (6·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,179
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. E. Streeten, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

HOUSING.

Mr. Streeten says Lechlade “is a place of considerable antiquity, “and has a considerable number of residential houses in it. . . . “The cottage property is much of it old, and some of it not very “sanitary. Some of the oldest have recently been demolished.”

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

“The filter-beds used for sewage disposal have been re-laid. . . . “Many cesspits are in use in the town, and also pail-closets.”

HOUSE REFUSE.

“There is no public system of scavenging.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Dairy farms, workshops, bakehouses, etc., are kept under observation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Two cases of scarlet fever occurred—both of a mild type, and connected with an outbreak in an adjoining parish. One was treated in hospital.

Measles was prevalent, and caused one death.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Two semi-detached stone cottages were bought in 1902 and adapted for this purpose. It is situated in the outskirts of the north side of the town, and was used for four cases of scarlet fever during 1904.

GLOUCESTER RURAL DISTRICT.

Area 30,669 Acres.	Population 1891	..	9,604
	1901	..	10,779
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	1,175 (12·2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	11,378
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

In this District are the largest Institutions in the County receiving sick persons from outside the district—viz., the County Asylums at Barnwood and Wotton, the Barnwood Hospital for the Insane, the Children's Hospital, and the City Isolation Hospital at Over. Considerably more than half the deaths registered in this district were of non-residents belonging to other districts. Dr. Bond attributes to some extent the low birth and death-rates recorded “to the existence “in the district of a large number of lunatics, who do not contribute “to the increase of the population, and whose average life is good, “in consequence of the care with which they are treated. . . . the “chief sources of mortality in these Institutions being phthisis, “pneumonia and heart disease.”

HOUSING.

There was “increased activity in building operations during 1904 “on the eastern side of the City, where the existing facilities for “drainage and water supply tend to promote the erection of houses of “a good class.”

SEWERAGE.

“The sewage farm at the outfall of the North End district has “been the subject of some complaint at times, but generally has been “conducted with satisfactory results.” It appears from the Inspector's Report that £130 11s. 1d. were expended on the treatment of sewage, and £5 on drainage works.

WATER SUPPLY.

Fifty-two new houses were connected with the City supply from Witcombe Reservoirs. Dr. Bond remarks there is no need for increase of supply in other parts of the district.

DAIRIES, ETC.

Dealing with the question of milk supply, Dr. Bond records complaint from the City of an outbreak of scarlet fever due to milk from this district. He adds "that all practical efforts are made to keep the cowsheds and other arrangements of those who purvey the milk in a sanitary condition. For reasons, however, which are cursorily dealt with in the general introduction it is very difficult to ensure the rigid observance of cleanliness which should obtain invariably in this business."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 55 cases of scarlet fever of a mild type, spread mainly through children attending the City schools. "The arrangement with the Gloucester Urban Authority for the removal of cases to the City Isolation Hospital at Over has worked satisfactorily during the year, though it has not been necessary to have recourse to it to more than a small extent." It appears that only six of the total 55 cases of scarlet fever were so removed, and that neither of the two cases of diphtheria or the two cases of typhoid fever were treated in hospital.

LYDNEY RURAL DISTRICT.

Area 24,634 Acres.	Population 1891	..	8,153
	1901	..	8,649
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	496 (6·1 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	8,809
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

HOUSING.

Plans for 26 houses were approved; 17 houses were repaired, one was closed, and nine were cleansed during 1904.

SEWERAGE.

“The year has not been free from trouble in connection with defects in the Lydney sewers. . . . Some difficulties have been experienced owing to the liability of the outfall to be obstructed by stones thrown into it and other matters.” The trouble appears to be accentuated by the flat gradient between Newerne and the Severn; while the tide is rising the flow of sewage is obstructed, and deposits take place in the outfall sewer. The part under the Newerne Brook has had to be reconstructed. The two large blocks of houses at Mount Pleasant are not yet provided for. In 1903 Dr. Bond reported that “this is a matter which calls for urgent attention, as its further neglect may lead to serious trouble.”

Sixty-four houses were connected with the main sewers during 1904; 30 new closets have been erected, and 26 old closets have been reconstructed.

WATER SUPPLY.

“There is equally good evidence of the improvement which is being steadily effected in the sanitary condition of Lydney, in the fact that no less than 200 houses have been connected with the new

“water mains during the past year. This is a valuable testimony, both to the appreciation by the inhabitants of the benefits of the water supply which is now brought within their reach, and to the commendable efforts of the Sanitary Surveyor in pressing these improvements forward. . . . Already the Parish Councils of Alvington and Aylburton have been led to consider the desirability of becoming partners with Lydney in the water supply which is now placed at their disposal, through the enterprise of the Lydney Parochial Committee, under the able chairmanship of Mr. Beaumont Thomas, who for so many years has so actively promoted this good work.” Two hundred houses are now connected with the mains.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Forty-eight cases were notified ; 76 in 1903. Some of the cases of scarlet fever were of a “rather more marked type than usual, but none of the cases were fatal. It was accompanied in some cases by a diphtheritic complication, which suggested a connection with the prevalence of this latter disease at Lydney.” Fifteen cases of diphtheria were notified, of which one was removed to hospital, while 11 of the 28 cases of scarlet fever were removed.

Dr. Bond says : “It is very satisfactory to be able to report an almost entire absence of enteric fever from the district during the year, especially in view of the serious prevalence of it in Lydney during 1903.” This outbreak was attributed to the disturbance of the ground caused by the sewerage and the defects which had to be remedied. “That cause of trouble has now ceased, and at the same time the general water supply of the town has been greatly improved by the excellent pipe supply.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“There has not been so much need for utilising the hospital at Alvington during the past year as in the two years which preceded it.” The accommodation for the nursing staff was felt to be

seriously deficient, and plans have now been prepared by Mr. G. J. Elliott, the Surveyor, for a nursing annexe at an estimated cost of £220. The purchase of the site of the hospital is also being considered.

Dr. Bond refers to the serious interference with the duties of the Sanitary Inspector—who is also Surveyor, and has to look after the drainage and water supply of the town of Lydney—by his also acting as collector of water rents, which is no part of his official duties.

Area 8,833 Acres.	Population 1891	..	1,635
	1901	..	1,485
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	150 (9·2 per cent)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	1,434
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. A. Thomson, M.B., D.P.H.

Dr. Thomson remarks that both the birth-rate (20·9) and the death-rate (16·7) are a little below the average of the preceding four years.

HOUSING.

From the Inspector's Report it appears that dwelling-houses and schools are regularly inspected.

WATER SUPPLY.

“At the end of the year the question of improving the water supply of Long Marston was brought forward, and I hope to report next year that we have done what is possible in that direction.” This is a matter to which Dr. Thomson has systematically drawn attention in each of his Annual Reports.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

In his Report to the Stratford-on-Avon Urban District Council Dr. Thomson, speaking of the Joint Isolation Hospital, refers to the difficulty experienced by all those who have the management of such hospitals in avoiding “return” cases. He quotes from a lecture by Dr. R. Reece (one of the Medical Inspectors of the Local Government Board), who dwelt on the importance of separating convalescent from the acute cases of scarlet fever.

NEWENT RURAL DISTRICT.

(GLOUCESTERSHIRE PART.)

*(Exclusive of Worcestershire Parishes, Redmarley D'Abitot
and Staunton.)*

Area 35,541 Acres.	Population 1891	..	7,432
	1901	..	7,067
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	365 (4·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	7,067
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. W. Norris Marshall, M.R.C.S.

Mr. Marshall says that “the year has been in every respect a most “uneventful one, and does not seem to lend itself to any special “remark from me.”

HOUSING.

Six dilapidated houses have been made fit for habitation, and five cases of overcrowding have been abated.

SEWERAGE.

“There has not been any change in the drainage of the district. “That already existing seems to be sufficiently effective.”

WATER SUPPLY.

Twelve wells have been cleansed and repaired.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

“The dairies, cowsheds, etc., have been visited, and appear to be “properly ventilated and otherwise kept in good order.”

“There is one common lodging-house, and that is well-conducted ; “no complaint.”

“There are no noxious trades carried on.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Sixteen cases of scarlet fever, two cases of diphtheria, and one case of typhoid fever were notified during the year. It would appear that no one of these was removed to the hospital at Oxenhall. Mr. Marshall refers to the means for bacteriological diagnosis which have been made available for the whole County.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“The question of isolation of infectious disease and the subsequent disinfection of the clothes and the rooms is constantly arising.” Mr. Marshall appears to consider that every cottage should be so built and arranged as to have a room available for isolating cases of infectious disease, but that even this would not overcome the difficulty of nursing, as the mother (the usual nurse) also acts as cook and housekeeper for the rest of the family.

STATISTICS.

Mr. Marshall says: “Intemperance might and ought to be written large across the pages of mortality returns, and then if we take into account the enormous amount of sickness due to this same intemperance though not having actually a fatal issue, the contemplation becomes simply appalling.”

Area 70,018 Acres.	Population 1891	..	8,885
	1901	..	8,100
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	785 (8·8 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	8,100
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. E. J. Ryan MacMahon, L.R.C.P., I.

HOUSING.

Mr. Ryan MacMahon remarks: "The villages and cottages are
 "as a rule well-kept, and the manner in which ventilation is appre-
 "ciated by the public is apparent from the many open windows one
 "sees now, in contrast to the few some years back."

WATER SUPPLY

"The District is well supplied with natural sources of water of a
 "particularly pure, though hard, quality; and though what may be
 "described as a season in which the rainfall was light, there was no
 "scarcity. . . . With one exception, there was no difficulty in
 "giving the (water) certificates required before houses are occupied."

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

"All the dairies, bakehouses, schools, slaughter-houses and work-
 "shops were visited."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

"There have been considerably fewer cases (of notifiable infectious
 "disease) during 1904 than in the previous year." The number of
 cases of scarlet fever was 32, all of which were removed to the Isolation
 Hospital at Northleach. There were no cases of diphtheria or of
 typhoid fever.

Area 17,326 Acres.	Population 1891	..	3,091
	1901	..	2,944
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	147 (4·8 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	2,944
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. Cecil A. Corke, F.F.P.S.

“ During the year a large number of men imported from all parts
 “ have been employed working on the new railway. . . . Careful
 “ supervision was exercised to obtain an early knowledge of any
 “ infectious disease among this fluctuating population, but fortu-
 “ nately no case occurred, although the presence of small-pox in
 “ surrounding districts required extra vigilance upon the part of your
 “ officers.”

HOUSING

“ There is still a need of good cottage accommodation in the
 “ District.” Two houses were closed as unfit for habitation. Five
 were made fit, and seven new houses were erected.

SEWERAGE.

The sewers at Willersey, Pebworth, Honeybourne and Ashton-
 under-Hill were opened, cleansed and repaired. “ In some cases
 “ the old privy vault still obtains. These should all be done away
 “ with where possible, and in eight cases this has been effected.”

WATER SUPPLY.

The Weston-sub-Edge water supply is to be augmented by a
 spring, yielding about 2,000 gallons a day. “ It is hoped soon to
 “ have an ample supply of water when the new work in hand is
 “ completed.”

SCHOOLS.

A new school has been opened at Pebworth. Honeybourne Schools were closed for a time owing to the presence of mumps and measles.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Seven notifications were received during the year, all of cases of scarlet fever. Five of these were in Weston-sub-Edge, "probably" imported cases, occurring in children sent for holiday from London. "All seven cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital."

STATISTICS.

An exceptionally high birth-rate is recorded—33·6 per 1,000.

*(Exclusive of Worcestershire Parishes of Evenlode and
Daylesford.)*

Area 42,203 Acres.	Population 1891	..	7,142
	1901	..	6,473
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	669 (9·4 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	6,473
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. W. Churchill Moore, M.A., M.B.

WATER SUPPLY.

Dr. Moore has “examined samples of public water supplies, and
“found them satisfactory.”

SCHOOLS.

“Naunton School was closed September-October owing to the
“presence of scarlet fever and diphtheria in the village.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 17 cases of scarlet fever, three of diphtheria, two of
erysipelas, and 18 of chicken-pox during 1904. “One case (of
“diphtheria) was admitted into Bourton Cottage Hospital, and
“proved fatal.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“Your district is still without an Isolation Hospital, rendering
“effective isolation of infectious diseases impossible.”

Area 37,221 Acres.	Population 1891	..	28,510
	1901	..	27,793
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	717 (2·5 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	27,565
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. J. Middleton Martin, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

A chart of comparative rates is presented with this Report, which shows clearly the changes that have taken place since 1875.

HOUSING.

The Surveyor to the Council (Mr. J. E. Haines) was appointed Building Inspector. Plans for 32 new buildings have been passed, and 17 houses have been completed. Three houses were condemned as unfit for habitation, but in two cases nothing had been done.

SEWERAGE.

Systems of sewerage and sewage disposal for five parishes were under the consideration of the Council during the year. There are now 180 connections with the Cainscross and Rodborough sewers, and 50 with the Thrupp Works, which were completed in August, 1904. An application to borrow £3,000 for the sewerage of Woodchester has been sanctioned by the Local Government Board. These sewers will be connected with the Rodborough Works at Cainscross. Application was also made for £6,000 for sewerage and sewage disposal (tanks and bacterial filters) works at Painswick. This has not yet been sanctioned, owing to a change in the "special area" being considered. The Medical Officer of Health advised that closets which could not be connected with the sewers should be periodically emptied and cleansed by the Council if they conformed to the Bye-Laws. Vaults are again deprecated.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

There has been no change in the methods of disposal of house refuse.

WATER SUPPLY.

Owing to the smaller rainfall, the springs yielded less abundantly than in 1903: no special shortness of supply was noted. 27·8 per cent. of the houses in the area of the Stroud Water Company are now connected with the public supply. The following Parishes within this area have not as yet had the Company's mains brought within reach: Bisley, Horsley, Pitchcombe, Woodchester, Randwick and Whiteshill. The District Council have again called on the Company to supply Horsley and Woodchester. It is understood that the mains will be extended to Woodchester in the spring of 1905.

Application for a loan of £3,000 has been made to supply Painswick from a spring in the Edge Valley. It is proposed to pump the water to a covered reservoir at the top of the hill, and to supply the village by gravitation.

Attention has been drawn to a group of 39 houses in Stonehouse which are at present dependent for their water on a small stream flowing through a roadside ditch. Water certificates were granted for 17 houses.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Improvements are being gradually made in the condition of dairies. Some improvements have been made in the slaughter-houses, but these are still not satisfactory; 13 of the 15 bake-houses, technically "underground," have been certified as satisfactory; one has been given up, and the last is being altered. The floors have been made smooth, and in many cases the bins, etc., have been placed on wheels to facilitate cleansing.

SCHOOLS.

Five schools were closed owing to the prevalence of various diseases—generally on the request of the School Authorities for the sake of the grant—three for whooping cough and two for scarlet fever.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A *resumé* of the prevalence of notifiable diseases since the adoption of the Notification Act in 1890 is given, from which it appears that the greatest incidence of scarlet fever was on Leonard Stanley, of diphtheria on Woodchester, and of typhoid fever on Cainscross.

There was an increase of scarlet fever during 1904. “As usual, “the spread of the disease was mainly due to school influence; and “the number of cases would probably have been considerably larger “had not a careful search been made for unrecognised cases.”

The number of notifications of diphtheria was the smallest on record, 10 sporadic cases occurring in seven different Parishes.

Whooping cough was prevalent in the spring.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

An account of the buildings of the Joint Isolation Hospital opened in December is given by G. P. Milnes, Esq., Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., the architect. There are four ward blocks, administrative block, laundry, etc., block, and porter's lodge. A steam disinfecter has also been provided, and is now available for the use of these three districts.

STATISTICS.

Full details are given for each Parish, including birth-rates, death-rates and infantile mortality, both for 1904, and the average of all previous years for which the numbers were available. The death-rate from tubercular diseases was 1·23, and it is suggested that

something might be done to reduce this death-rate by the disinfection of houses where deaths have occurred, as is done in the Stroud Urban District.

“Inquests were held in 36 cases, 10·5 per cent. of total deaths, the highest proportion since 1889. . . . It is gratifying to note that the number of deaths (not certified by a medical man or by a coroner after inquest) is considerably smaller than in the earlier years of which I have records, when the percentage of uncertified deaths was as high as 7·5 and 8·3 in two years.”

METEOROLOGY.

A table of rainfall from information received from seven observing stations at various points in the district is appended. From this it appears that the deficiency in the rainfall compared with the average varied from one-half an inch to four-and-a-half inches.

INSPECTOR'S REPORTS.

As usual, these are printed with the above. This is a useful custom, as it enables the progress of work done to be traced over the period of years for which these Reports are available.

TETBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

(GLOUCESTERSHIRE PART.)

Area 26,301 Acres.	Population 1891	..	3,983
	1901	..	3,800
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	183 (4·6 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	3,757
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

HOUSING.

“The population live for the most part in well-constructed, comfortable, and often picturesque cottages, generally with a good water supply and sufficient gardens and allotments to provide them with as much vegetable food as they require.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet fever was introduced into the school at Didmarton from Willersey (Wilts), by mild, unrecognised cases, which were the cause of 21 cases in the Gloucestershire part of this district. The school was closed, and a trained nurse provided by the Duchess of Beaufort.

Referring to the Report of the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. J. Knight), who succeeded Mr. Warne only in November last, Dr. Bond says :
 “Although this summary is more meagre than it should be—especially in relation to matters connected with the subject of housing accommodation and drainage—I have no reason to think, either for my own observations or for any information I have received, that any serious insanitary conditions exist in any part of the district ; but it is only by regular inspection and attention to it that its generally healthy character can be maintained.”

(GLOUCESTERSHIRE PART.)

Area 28,366 Acres.	Population 1891	..	5,139
	1901	..	4,986
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	153 (3 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	4,987
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. A. Fowell-Turner, L.R.C.P., Ed., J.P.

This is Mr. Turner's nineteenth Annual Report.

HOUSING.

One case of overcrowding was abated.

WATER SUPPLY.

PAMINGTON.—“ The reservoir ran short for a very considerable
 “ portion of the year, and during that time had only pools
 “ and the stream running through the village to depend
 “ upon. The water supply of this village is very unsatis-
 “ factory, and requires attention. I am of opinion that in
 “ the long run the cheapest and best plan would be (if the
 “ Cheltenham Corporation will permit it) to carry on the
 “ water main from Ashchurch, and so secure a constant
 “ and good supply for the future.”

KEMERTON.—“ The houses are being slowly connected with
 “ the new main.”

SEWERAGE, ETC.

KEMERTON.—Houses being connected with new sewers.

NEWTOWN, ASHCURCH.—“ At present a scheme is in the
 “ hands of the Local Government Board for approval. It is,
 “ I understand, the intention of the Local Government
 “ Board to hold another Inquiry.* It is to be hoped that
 “ some scheme will be adopted and carried out with as
 “ little delay as possible.”

* It would appear that this will be the sixth Local Government Board Inquiry on this matter.

CHELTHENHAM SEWAGE FARMS “have been the cause of
“ numerous complaints from persons residing in their
“ vicinity. It is, therefore, satisfactory to know that the
“ Cheltenham Corporation are waking up to the fact that
“ their farms are not absolutely perfect, and have accor-
“ dingly instructed the Borough Surveyor to report upon
“ the best system of bacterial treatment of sewage with
“ a view to its adoption, and I understand that his report
“ will shortly be presented.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

One underground bakehouse has been approved by the Council.
“ The District has been regularly inspected during the year.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Fifteen cases of scarlet fever, one of puerperal fever, and two of erysipelas were notified. “ All the cases (18) made a good recovery.
“ The number of vaccinations was 138 : 79·8 per cent. of total births.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The arrangement with the Borough for the treatment of cases of small-pox in the hospital at Tredington and general infectious diseases in the Borough Hospital came to an end in November, 1904. After that date five cases of scarlet fever were removed to Tredington. Mr. Fowell-Turner draws attention to the fact that this district is now without a hospital for small-pox, as “ it would not be permissible
“ to erect the tent in the hospital enclosure, and therefore there would
“ be no site available.

“ The necessity for the provision of a steam or other efficient
“ disinfecter recommended by me in former Reports is strongly
“ emphasised by the coming into force of the Midwives Act on
“ April 1st of this year. By that Act any midwife who may come in
“ contact with a case of puerperal fever is required to send her clothes
“ to the nearest Sanitary Authority for disinfection. It will be
“ impossible to carry this out unless some efficient means of disinfection is provided.”

Area 56,300 Acres.	Population 1891	..	16,765
	1901	..	16,565
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	200 (1·2 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	16,518
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. F. T. Bond, B.A., M.D., F.R.S.E.

Dr. Bond refers to the addition of the Parish of Henbury to this District on the dissolution of the Barton Regis Union, but has not dealt with it in this Report owing to the facts that the transference was not completed until November, and that he received no records as to its previous sanitary supervision.

HOUSING.

“ The only part of the District in which there has been any recent activity in house building is at Tytherington, where the development of the extensive quarries of the Tytherington Stone Company has led to the erection of neat brick cottages.” Huts were provided for emergency accommodation of navvies, water of the West Gloucestershire Company being laid on and sanitary conveniences provided, which “ are well-arranged and looked after.”

SEWERAGE, ETC.

“ Berkeley and Sharpness are the only two places in the district in which anything like a system of sewerage exists, and in both cases the sewage finds its way into the Severn without giving rise to any complaint.” “ No circumstances have occurred to indicate any pressing need ” for works in other parts of the district.

WATER SUPPLY.

Twenty-three houses have been connected to extensions of the West Gloucestershire Company's mains from Stowell's Hill to Grovesend, and to Woodland Lane at Patchway.

“ The condition of things in the Marsh District remains as it was, the inhabitants there being almost wholly dependent on the rhine water for their supply. With an ordinary rainfall, this water is drinkable, after being allowed to settle, or, better still, after being

“ filtered ; and so far as experience goes, it is not liable, under
 “ ordinary circumstances, to any dangerous form of pollution. It
 “ originates in springs on the flank of the ridge of mountain limestone
 ‘ on the eastern side of the Marsh district, and travels slowly along
 “ the rhines to the Severn.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

“ The most prominent feature of the routine work in this district
 “ is the inspection of the large number of milksellers registered in it.
 That Mr. Williams does his best to discharge a difficult
 “ duty conscientiously I have no doubt, but whether it is possible
 “ for anyone in his position—with the other duties he has to perform
 “ —to maintain such a supervision of this industry as the expectation
 “ of those who demand ‘ pure milk ’ seem to require is another
 “ matter.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“ No hospital for the isolation of cases of infectious diseases
 “ generally exists in the district, but the small hospitals at Berkeley
 “ and Almondsbury have done good service during past years in
 “ receiving cases of a slightly infectious character. At the former
 “ two cases of typhoid fever landed at Sharpness were successfully
 “ treated, but the latter has not been similarly employed during the
 “ past year.”

“ The old farmhouse at Crawless, near Berkeley, is still retained
 “ by the Council for the purposes of meeting an outbreak of small-
 “ pox.”

VACCINATION.

“ The high character which the vaccination of this district has
 “ for some years exhibited ” was maintained during 1904.

SCHOOLS.

Two schools were closed owing to diphtheria (one by the Managers),
 one school owing to measles and two owing to whooping cough.

Summarising the work of the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. F. Williams),
 Dr. Bond concludes : “ I am glad to have an opportunity of again
 “ bearing witness, as I have done in previous years, to the valued
 “ services of an experienced, competent and trustworthy officer.”

Area 10,097 Acres. Population 1891	..	13,118
1901	..	15,945
Increase 1891-1901	..	<u>2,827</u> (21·55 per cent.)
Estimated population 1904	..	<u>17,051</u>

Medical Officer of Health .. W. Murray, M.D.

Dr. Murray presents a very comprehensive Report full of interesting detail. He remarks that “the City of Bristol for the present has given “up the attempt to get a portion of your Area included in the City,” and that “the Table drawn up by your Clerk regarding the Urban “Powers which we possess (also appended) shows that we have all “the Urban Powers we need.” The configuration of the district and the geological formations are described and an account given of the industries, which are numerous, the chief being coal-mining and shoe-making for the men, and paper-making, stay-making and tailoring for the women.

HOUSING.

Plans for 114 houses were presented, and 82 approved ; 57 new houses were erected, and three made habitable.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Mangotsfield sewage works continue to give a satisfactory effluent, “at any rate, good enough to pass finally into the Frome.” Dr. Murray’s chief complaint is with regard to hand-flushed closets.

“The other four Parishes of the District have no system of drains “or sewers.”

RIVERS POLLUTION.

“A good deal has been done to ameliorate the condition of the “(Siston) Brook, but in many places—*e.g.*, at Bitton Village—the

“drains, where there are any, pass directly to the brook.” An inspection by Dr. Murray of the whole course of this brook some years ago resulted in some improvement, but a good deal remains to be done.

HOUSE REFUSE.

There has been no change. In Mangotsfield public scavenging is undertaken by the Council.

WATER SUPPLY.

Of the places reported previously as having a deficient supply, Viney Green and Dibden Farm are now supplied, and Webb's Heath probably will be soon supplied. One or two in the area of North Common have joined the West Gloucestershire Water Company's mains, which were extended to this place on a guarantee from the Council to the Company in 1902. “On the whole, the Company's “supply has been good, pure and sufficient.” At times a reddish tinge, “caused chiefly by oxide of iron, has given the water an impure “look, . . . and at other times it has had an earthy taste.” Dr. Murray appears to have made frequent examinations of the water, and has, “on the whole, found its composition, by chemical “analysis, very constant. . . . The gathering ground is a very “large one, extending to the southern slopes of the Cotswolds. The “water is brought from an old iron mine, and has, therefore, a reser- “voir of great extent.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Slaughter-houses are “not always of a model kind,” but “are all “fairly good and clean.”

“Many of the larger dairies are quite up to every requirement.” Small milk-sellers keep the milk in a wide, open-mouthed dish, surrounded by heterogeneous articles. “This is a condition I always “interfere with, but they are always springing up in most unexpected “places.” The smaller bakehouses appear to cause trouble.

SCHOOLS.

Complaint is again made of “the filthy way in which the cesspool of Cadbury Heath County School is cleansed,” and it is pointed out that “the earth-closet system at Bitton County School answers very well, and could be used at this School as well.” With regard to schools and infectious disease, Dr. Murray says: “As I represent the public health, and it is in no wise, except in a few circumstances, benefitted by closure, I think it inadvisable in future to order closure of schools. This is to be represented to the County Council.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were fewer cases of scarlet fever. “On the whole, the type has been mild. The disease has occurred over the whole district and over the whole year.” A short epidemic of diphtheria was “due to contact with the schools in the Bristol District.” Ten of the 11 cases of typhoid fever were imported.

Dr. Murray appears to consider the education of consumptives in sanatoria a valuable influence towards controlling tubercular diseases.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The existing arrangements with Keynsham—which Dr. Murray has always considered unsatisfactory—came to an end in March. He urges the necessity of either providing a hospital for this District alone, or, as he advised in 1901 and 1902, a joint establishment with Kingswood Urban District. “Expense is necessary, but a population of 16,000 or 17,000 is in a perilous condition without one.”

Reports by the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. C. R. Cross) and the Surveyor (Mr. H. M. Bennett) are printed with the above, and Tables of rainfall at Pucklechurch and of the Urban Powers in force in the district are appended.

Area 21,461 Acres.	Population 1891	..	11,697
	1901	..	12,624
			<hr/>
	Increase 1891-1901	..	927 (7·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	12,520
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. P. Buchanan, M.B.

HOUSING.

Dr. Buchanan, after describing the District, says, “it would appear that although many new houses have been built and occupied in recent years, an equal number has become void through dilapidations and the inability or disinclination of the owners to spend the necessary money to put them in habitable condition. The practice in the district of willing property to people as tenants for life only accounts to some extent for this.”

“The house accommodation for a working class district may be said generally to be good, and, what is more, to be improving.” Forty cottages have been altered and enlarged and 16 new cottages built, plans being first approved under the Bye-Laws; “21 old and dilapidated houses have been dealt with as unfit.”

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

“A water carriage system for the District is practically impossible.” The combined privy and ashpit appears to be “viewed with more favour than when first introduced.”

WATER SUPPLY.

The chief sources are “small surface wells, open draw wells, or soft-water tanks constructed in the basement of the houses. In times of drought these sources begin to fail, and cause much inconvenience. . . . The spring water is hard, and there is no

“doubt decaying vegetable matter finds its way into the open well, but with the exception of vermes in children and goitre in adolescent life, it cannot be said to give rise to any deleterious consequences.”

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

The slaughter-houses are small, and have been inspected. Bake-houses are small, but are kept clean and wholesome. The small workshops are well ventilated, and no home work is done.

SCHOOLS.

Berry Hill Schools were kept closed after the Christmas (1903) holidays in consequence of scarlet fever, and “Park End Schools” were closed by order of the Council for three weeks in consequence “of the outbreak of diphtheria.” The closets and drains at the latter school were in a bad sanitary condition.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 15 cases of scarlet fever, scattered over the district. Diphtheria “assumed an almost epidemic form, and was of a severe “type” in the infants’ department of the Park End Schools. The disease appears to have been introduced by a child from Gun’s Mills, in the East Dean Rural District, suffering from diphtheria in an “ambulant form.”

One isolated case of typhoid fever occurred, the man being taken ill about 18 days after cleaning out a disused well. Twenty to thirty years ago typhoid fever was more or less endemic in this place (Lydbrook). Dr. Buchanan is of opinion that “infection had lain “latent in the well for over twenty years.”

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“The District is not provided with an isolation hospital.”

WHEATENHURST RURAL DISTRICT.

(FRAMPTON DIVISION.)

Area 11,371 Acres.	Population 1891	..	4,250
	1901	..	3,785
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	465 (10·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	3,748
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. C. J. Weller, M.R.C.S.

Mr. Weller says: "I beg to lay before you my Report for the past year, which is my eighteenth and last, as the district has been combined with the Haresfield one, and a medical officer appointed for the whole district."

HOUSING.

Two new houses have been erected and one has been pulled down.

SEWERAGE.

The main ditches at Saul have been cleared out.

WATER SUPPLY.

"During my term of office Eastington has been supplied with water from Chalford, in most parts, and will I hope soon be in all. . . . The question of the water supply at Nastend, Eastington, has been under your notice, and will, I hope, soon be settled. The condition there is very bad, as there is practically no water supply, and during the past year was exceptionally scarce."

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Dairies and bakehouses have generally been found in good condition. Slaughter-houses and workshops "have been inspected, and, with two exceptions, were satisfactory."

SCHOOLS.

Longney, Saul and Frampton Schools were closed at the end of the year owing to “an extensive, though not severe, epidemic of measles.” “The condition of the Eastington Schools has been dealt with by you during the year.” This had been complained of for several years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were two cases of scarlet fever in one house.

VACCINATION.

“Vaccination is not being satisfactorily done: so many exemptions are obtained.”

(HARESFIELD DIVISION.)

Area 13,012 Acres.	Population 1891	..	2,603
	1901	..	2,320
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	283 (10·9 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	2,240
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. G. T. B. Watters, M.D.

This is Dr. Watters' twenty-third and last Annual Report. Owing to his resigning the appointment of Medical Officer of Health, the Local Government Board decided that this was a suitable opportunity for the District Council to appoint one Medical Officer of Health for the whole district instead of two officers, as hitherto.

HOUSING.

“House accommodation for the working classes is adequate. It is seldom that any house has to be condemned as unfit for habitation. With a diminishing population, the question of overcrowding does not frequently arise. In some cases greater cleanliness of the interiors is much to be desired.”

SEWERAGE.

Dr. Watters calls attention to the danger of contamination of water supplies from the old style of privy vault, and urges the adoption of earth-closets with removable buckets.

PLACES OVER WHICH THE COUNCIL HAVE SUPERVISION.

Dr. Watters gives a detailed account of the dairies in the district, from which it appears that, while some improvements have been made, much remains to be done.

SCHOOLS.

Lessons in elementary physiology and the relative value of foods and their preparation are advised. “The working man’s present “methods of the provision and preparation of food are not only “primitive, wasteful, and therefore expensive, but the absence in so “many cases of sufficient nourishment in the food consumed leads “frequently to chronic ill-health and incapacity for work. More “particularly does this affect children, especially infants, whose lives “are thus rendered most precarious, and who speedily succumb to “any acute illness. It is not too much to say that thousands of “infants’ lives are thus sacrificed every year.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Fourteen cases of scarlet fever were notified. In one instance a school mistress called Dr. Watters’ attention to a child who was found to be suffering from a mild attack of scarlet fever. On examining other children in the school Dr. Watters found that another child had also had a mild unrecognised attack, and was still in the school.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

“Nothing has been done.” Dr. Watters again advises the Council to make arrangements with the Stroud Joint Hospital Board for the reception of cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria and typhoid fever into their hospital at Cainscross. He suggests that “the existing isolation “hospital could be removed to some suitable site, not too remote “from the workhouse, and used solely for small-pox cases.”

VACCINATION.

“Vaccination is very efficiently carried out in my District. With “re-vaccination made compulsory in children at the age when they “are leaving school we should, before many years, be as free from “small-pox in England as they are in Germany, where the only cases “that occur are imported from other countries less efficiently “protected.”

Area 55,529 Acres.	Population 1891	..	9,106
	1901	..	8,709
			<hr/>
	Decrease 1891-1901	..	397 (4.4 per cent.)
			<hr/>
	Estimated population 1904	..	9,409
			<hr/>

Medical Officer of Health .. William Cox, M.R.C.S.

Mr. Cox says he has “ added 700 to the number of the last Census “ on account of the influx of extra workers on the new railway which “ is in course of construction.”

SEWERAGE.

“ The scheme for Beckford has advanced but slowly.” A Local Government Board Inquiry was held on the 15th April, 1904, into an application from the District Council for sanction to borrow £4,000 for works of water supply and sewage disposal for this village, and on the 7th January, 1905, it was reported to the District Council that the Local Government Board sent their formal sanction to the borrowing of £2,000 for the sewerage works at Beckford, and £1,800 for the water supply.

The sewerage of Cleeve Hill does not appear to have been settled.

WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. Cox remarks that “ the wet season of 1903 strengthened all “ the springs, so that there has been everywhere an abundant supply “ of pure water during 1904. The whole district, situated as it is “ either on the range of the Cotswold Hills or immediately under- “ neath, has an exceptionally fine supply of pure water.”

The spring proposed as the supply for Beckford is at Grafton, and has been gauged to yield 7,854 gallons in twenty-four hours. No note is made with regard to the water supply of Guiting Power,

which Mr. Cox has mentioned in several Reports, and remarked in 1902, "It seems a hopeless task to get the condition improved."

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Eight cases of small-pox occurred during 1904, "brought into the district by two navvies working on the new railway works. Every care was exercised in isolation and vaccination. . . . One very interesting case occurred, showing clearly the great benefit of vaccination. A man who was living with one of the patients was vaccinated as soon as I saw him. In due time he sickened, the rash came out fully upon him, and in two days it had gone. The man was well, and had not the slightest mark upon him. It had, in fact, abated owing to his having been vaccinated during the incubation period."

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The first cases of small-pox were isolated in a hospital on Langley Hill. Meanwhile an acre of land was bought by the Council, on which a hospital is being constructed at a contract price of £275 12s. 0d.

Eleven of the total 42 cases of scarlet fever were removed to hospital (apparently the hospital which was used during the year for small-pox).

SCHOOLS

Two schools were closed on account of whooping cough and one on account of measles during 1904.



TABLE C.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.	Medical Officer of Health.	Inspector.	HOUSING.								SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.								Refuse Disposal. Any Change.	WATER SUPPLY.						NUMBERS INSPECTED.						ELEMENTARY.		
			No. of Plans.	No. Built.	No. of Water Certificates P.H. (Water Act, 1878).	Cleansed under Sec. 46 P.H.A., 1875.	Closed under Sec. 32 H.W.C.A., 1890.	Made Habitable.	Demolished.	Overcrowding abated.	Any Application for Loan.	Amount.	Purpose.	New Connections.	W.C.'s Supplied with Water.	Approved Closets Constructed.	Notices to empty Vaults.	Any Change.		Any Loan. Amount.	Purpose.	New Connections.	New Wells or Sources.	Wells Closed.	Samples Examined.	Lodging-houses.	Slaughter-houses.	Bakelhouses.	Dairies.	Canal Boats.	Workshops.	Outworkers.	Number.	Insanitary.
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILS—																																		
AWRE	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	W. Willetts	0	*	0	1	0	0	0	1	No.	..	..	0	0	1	10	No.	No.	No.	..	None.	0	0	0	None.	2	2	29	None.	8	12	3	
CHARLTON KINGS .. .	H. Bansall Todd, M.R.C.S. .. .	B. Hack	10	17	..	..	..	..	..	1	No.	..	..	17	..	..	0	No.	No.	No.	..	20	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	2		
CHELTENHAM	J. H. Garrett, M.D. .. .	A. E. Hudson .. .. .	..	162	..	126	12	4	7	41	Yes.	..	New Main Carriers. Seven new sections to replace old Sewers.	..	213	0	0	No.	No.	..	Additional filters.	..	..	0	18	6	18	53	09	..	..	..
CIRENCESTER	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	T. Hihbert	10	*	..	0	4	11	4	0	No.	..	..	..	*	7	Vaults rare.	No.	No.	4,200	New buildings and machinery and enlargement of boring. Cost of trial boring	16	0	4	0	1	8	12	17	0	30	0	3	
COLEFORD	P. Buchanan, M.B. .. .	J. Harris	6	6	..	0	1	0	0	0	No.	..	..	0	1	5	0	No.	No.	900	..	0	3	0	0	1	3	7	4	0	5	0	3	
HORFIELD	A. W. Peake, M.R.C.S. .. .	J. A. Wright .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.	No.	No.	..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	2	
KINGSWOOD	C. J. Perrott, L.R.C.P.I. .. .	C. H. Waithman, .. .	13	40	..	..	0	3	0	2	Yes.	21,000	Sewerage.	352	87	..	..	No.	No.	No.	..	36	0	1	2	0	23	37	29	0	411	150	6	
NAILSWORTH	J. M. Martin, M.D. .. .	J. Hall, Cert. San. Inst. .. .	4	8	..	11	0	4	0	5	No.	..	..	..	6	7	24	No.	No.	No.	..	13	3	0	0	None.	0	3	8	None.	9	0	3	
NEWNHAM	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	H. Ferris	1	*	..	2	0	2	0	0	No.	..	..	2	*	1	(?)	No.	No.	No.	..	7	0	0	1	None.	3	3	3	None.	7	0	1	
STOW-ON-THE-WOLD .. .	E. Dening, M.R.C.S. .. .	F. R. Howman .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.	..	..	..	..	..	15	No.	..	..	..	5	..	..	4	None.	4	2	2	None.	4	0	3	
STROUD	J. M. Martin, M.D. .. .	W. Parsons, Cert. San. Inst. .. .	6	5	..	0	4	5	0	2	No.	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.	No.	No.	..	..	..	..	9	4	9	18	15	17	94	29	6	
TETBURY	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	J. Knight (New Inspector in Nov.)	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	No.	..	..	*	*	*	*	No.	No.	No.	..	2	*	*	*	3	2	0	3	None.	19	*	1	
TEWKESBURY	A. Fowell-Turner, M.R.C.S. .. .	W. Ridler .. .. .	..	..	..	No	Return.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN .. .	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	C. Cadle	3	*	..	1	0	2	1	0	No.	..	..	0	0	1	0	No.	No.	No.	..	None.	0	0	0	None.	1	6	9	None.	None.	None.	2	
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS—																																		
BARTON REGIS .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	..	..	..	No Bye-Laws in District.	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	..	12	No.	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	None.	6	11	10	None.	60	None.	11		
CAMPDEN	G. Findlay, M.A.M.B. .. .	C. J. Gander, .. . Cert. San. Inst.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.	No.	..	..	..	..	0	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
CHELTENHAM	J. F. Johns, M.D., D.P.H. .. .	J. Weaver	11	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.	No.	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
CHIPPING SODBURY .. .	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	J. B. Adams	7	*	15	1	0	15	2	2	Yes.	1,400	Wickwar Disposal Works	*	..	2	8	No.	Extension at Frampton Cotterell. None of importance.	No.	..	164	3	0	1	1	14	27	65	None.	50	60	22	
CIRENCESTER	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	W. B. Harmer	11	*	0	9	0	5	0	4	No.	..	..	*	..	1	25	No.	..	No.	..	3	2	0	4	None.	9	23	37	0	0	0	34	
DURSLEY	F. J. Joy nes, M.R.C.S. .. .	W. Webb	2	1	11	2	..	2	0	1	No.	..	..	49	29	6	23	No.	No.	No.	..	19	2	0	6	2	31	35	66	0	40	0	19	
EAST DEAN AND UNITED PARISHES.	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	F. Ricketts	22	*	0	0	0	*	0	7	No.	..	..	10	*	..	1	No.	No.	No.	..	29	0	0	2	2	21	27	..	None.	49	..	19	
FARINGDON	F. E. Streeten, D.P.H. .. .	.. .. .	..	..	..	No	Return.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
GLOUCESTER	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	F. Weaver	58	*	6	0	2	12	0	3	No.	..	..	Northend, 19	*	1	*	No.	No.	No.	..	Northend, 52	6	0	0	None.	1	13	70	None.	31	0	16	
LYDNEY	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	G. J. Elliott	26	*	11	0	1	17	0	3	No.	..	..	*	*	41	78	No.	Extension, Lydney.	No.	..	200	0	..	8	None.	5	16	85	None.	8	0	10	
MARSTON SICCA	A. Thompson, M.B. .. .	J. Izod .. .. .	..	1	..	..	0	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	..	12	No.	No.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7		
NEWENT	W. Norris Marshall, M.R.C.S. .. .	T. Smith .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	10	..	..	..	..	..
NORTHLEACH	E. J. Ryan MacMahon, .. . L.R.C.P.I.	J. C. Waine .. .. .	..	4	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	No.	No.	..	Northleach, 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25		
PEBWORTH	Cecil A. Corke, F.F.P.S. .. .	H. S. Harvey .. .. .	..	7	..	3	2	5	..	4	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	2	..	1	..	36	..	..	..	..
STOW-ON-THE-WOLD .. .	W. C. Moore, M.A., M.B. .. .	.. .. .	..	..	..	No	Return.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
STROUD	J. M. Martin, M.D. .. .	{ A. Bailey J. Hall, Cert. San. Inst. }	32	17	17	16	3	6	0	11	Woodchester	3,000	Sewerage.	161	20	54	66	No.	No.	3,000	W.S. of Painswick Parish.	74	8	0	16	None.	27	40	46	39	37	0	35	
TETBURY	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	J. A. Knight (New Inspector in Nov.)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	No.	..	..	..	..	1	4	No.	No.	No.	..	0	1	0	0	None.	3	5	16	None.	*	*	9	
TEWKESBURY	A. Fowell-Turner, M.R.C.S. .. .	.. .. .	..	..	..	No	Return.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
THORNBURY	F. T. Bond, M.D. .. .	F. Williams	29	*	19	0	2	15	0	3	No.	..	..	0	*	4	6	No.	One extension, Grove End and Patchway. Houses in Berkeley from Wanswell.	No.	..	23	*	0	0	2	9	44	258	0	114	17	About 25	
WARMLEY	W. Murray, M.D. .. .	C. R. Cross	82	57	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	10	No.	No.	..	..	99	..	2	39	..	14	18	60	..	50	200	10		
WEST DEAN	P. Buchanan, M.B. .. .	W. J. Blanch	54	16	16	0	4	6	0	14	No.	..	..	0	0	37	All abolished.	No.	No.	No.	..	0	8	0	2	0	7	13	3	None.	5	None.	12	
WHEATENHURST—																																		
Frampton	C. J. Weller, M.R.C.S. .. .	T. Daniels	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	No.	..	..	1	0	5	30	No.	No.	No.	..	1	0	0	0	0	4	9	6	9	5	3	7	
Haresfield	G. T. B. Watters, M.D. .. .	.. .. .	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	2	..	1	..	18	..	..	..	6		
WINCHCOMBE	W. Cox, M.R.C.S. .. .	C. Gardner .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Beckford, Cleeve Hill. Yes.	2,000 1,800	Sewerage.	..	..	..	..	No.	..	1,800	W.S. of Beckford.	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	20		

TABLE C.

WATER SUPPLY.					NUMBERS INSPECTED.							ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.			INFECTIOUS DISEASES.				GENERAL.										Any Change in Bye-Laws.	CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT.	SUGGESTIONS AND REMARKS.
Purpose.	New Connections.	New Wells or Sources.	Wells Closed.	Samples Examined.	Lodging-houses.	Slaughter-houses.	Bakehouses.	Dairies.	Canal Boats.	Workshops.	Outworkers.	Number.	Insanitary conditions dealt with.	(?) Water Supply Satisfactory.	No. of Cases.	Houses Disinfected.	ISOLATION HOSPITAL.		Complaints Received.	Nuisances Reported.	Nuisances Swine.	Nuisances Altered.	Notices Served.	Statutory Notices Served.	Summonses.	Convictions.					
																	Any Change.	What Change.													
..	None.	0	0	0	None.	2	12	29	None.	8	12	3	0	No information to contrary.	1	1	No.	..	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	No.	No provision for isolating infectious cases.			
..	20	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	2	1	Yes	3	3	No.	..	..	40	0	40	39	39	0	0	No.		
Additional filters.	..	..	0	18	6	18	53	69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	192	No.	..	72	2353	..	..	940	..	..	..	..	No.	
Buildings and machinery and enlargement of spring.	16	0	4	0	1	8	12	17	0	30	0	3	2	..	28	8	No.	..	15	32	6	32	23	2	0	0	No.	Isolation Hospital requires enlargement and reconstruction.			
of trial boring	0	3	0	0	1	3	7	4	0	5	0	3	0	No	19	6	No.	..	0	147	0	137	147	19	0	0	No.	(1) Water Supply. (2) Sewerage. (3) Isolation Hospital. (4) Disinfecter. (5) More and better house accommodation.			
..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	2	0	Yes	4	5	No.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.		
..	36	0	1	2	0	23	37	29	0	411	150	6	2	Yes	77	77	Yes.	Small-Pox Hospital, with 6 beds.	81	126	7	150	146	12	0	0	No.	Public Urinal			
..	13	3	0	0	None.	6	3	8	None.	9	0	3	4	Yes	17	9	Yes.	New Joint Hospital.	1	77	13	76	77	9	0	0	No.	General Isolation Hospital.			
..	7	0	0	1	None.	3	3	3	None.	7	0	1	0	Fair	4	4	No.	..	15	36	6	36	8	0	0	0	No.	Complete system of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works.			
..	5	..	..	4	None.	4	2	2	None.	4	0	3	0	Yes	6	4	No.	..	4	60	4	57	17	0	0	0	No.	No provision for isolation.	
..	..	..	..	9	4	9	18	15	17	94	29	6	0	Yes	33	16	Yes.	Temporary closed.	38	56	7	39	43	6	0	0	No.	Scavenging Cart.	
..	2	*	*	*	3	2	6	3	None.	19	*	1	0	Yes	0	0	No.	New Joint opened.	3	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	No.	Better Housing.			
..	None.	0	0	0	None.	1	6	9	None.	None.	None.	2	0	Information .. imperfect.	4	4	No.	..	4	4	1	18	4	0	0	0	No.	Provision for isolating cases of infection.			
..	..	..	..	0	None.	6	11	10	None.	60	None.	11	..	..	22	26	No.	..	..	..	..	..	40	0	0	No.	Scavenging needed in Campden and Moreton.		
..	..	..	0	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	No.	..	..	46	3	46	..	..	0	0	No.		
..	164	3	0	1	1	14	27	65	None.	50	60	22	0	Yes	39	30	No.	..	10	67	40	80	140	2	0	0	No.	Proper equipment of Hospital.			
..	3	2	0	4	None.	9	23	37	0	0	0	34	0	Yes, generally	42	29	No.	..	Very few	95	12	93	95	0	0	0	No.	.. .. .	£61 12s. 2d. spent on drainage, Fairford; £9 17s. 1d. on sewage treatment, Fairford and Stratton.	
..	19	2	0	6	2	31	35	66	0	40	0	19	0	Yes	49	41	No.	..	21	106	0	104	106	62	0	0	No.	Extension of drainage, Wotton-under-Edge. Sludge Cart, Wotton-under-Edge.	Further improvement in drainage of Wotton-under-Edge.		
..	29	0	0	2	2	21	27	..	None.	49	..	19	0	Yes, generally	104	64	No.	..	198	176	*	163	55	53	0	0	No.	Better Water Supply, especially Ruardean Hill and Woodside. Better arrangements for disinfection.	Work of district much improved since the appointment of Mr. Ricketts.		
..	Northend, 52	6	0	0	None.	1	13	70	None.	31	0	16	0	Yes, generally	64	49	No.	..	20	38	5	43	43	38	0	0	No.	.. .. .	Arrangements with Gloucester City for admission of Patients have hitherto worked satisfactorily, and are sufficient.	
..	200	0	..	8	None.	5	16	85	None.	8	0	10	1	Yes, generally	48	43	Yes.	Accommodation for Nurses, storing linen, etc., at cost of £230.	22	143	3	143	66	19	0	0	No.	.. .. .	Much improved in regard to drainage and water supply in Lydney.	
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0	No.	Water Supply, Long Marston.		
..	..	..	..	..	1	6	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	10	..	..	..	..	8	11	11	..	..	..	..
..	Northleach, 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	..	..	35	29	..	..	..	36	2	26	36	4	..	..	No.		
..	6	..	..	2	..	1	..	36	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..		
of Painswick Parish.	74	8	0	16	None.	27	40	46	39	37	0	35	9	Fair, 0 for two Schools.	81	65	Yes.	New Joint Hospital.	31	302	31	314	294	12	0	0	No.				
..	0	1	0	0	None.	3	5	16	None.	*	*	9	1	Yes, generally	24	6	No.	..	0	4	1	4	0	0	0	0	No.				
..	23 W. Glos. Co.,	*	0	0	2	9	44	258	0	114	17	About 25	0	Yes, generally	85	41	No.	..	*	138	11	138	*	24	0	0	No.	Isolation Hospital for General Diseases.			
..	99	..	2	39	..	14	18	60	..	50	200	10	1	Yes	118	112	Termination with	of arrangement	31	53	13	50	29	..	1	1	..				
..	0	8	0	2	0	7	13	3	None.	5	None.	12	3	No, in many instances.	37	30	No.	Keynsbam.	0	351	40	308	351	77	4	4	No.	More house accommodation Disinfecter wanted.			
..	1	0	0	0	0	4	9	6	9	5	3	7	1	Yes	2	1	No.	..	..	58	0	58	..	..	0	0	No.	Better Water Supply.	
..	..	6	..	2	..	1	..	18	..	..	..	6	..	..	14	8	No.	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	No.	.. .. .	Regulations with respect to Dairies, etc., should be adopted.	
of Beckford.	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	1	Yes	57	All.	Yes.	New Hospital being constructed.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..